



St. Placid Priory

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Fall - Winter

August 2018

The Love of Christ Impels Us

By Postulant Camille Wooden and Sister Sharon McDonald

“Let us help each other, all together, to remember that the 'other' is not a statistic, or a number. We all need each other.” --Pope Francis

We at St. Placid had decided to write our lead article on “Finding Balance and Keeping Our Center while Using Technology.” However, current events, far and near, compelled us to change course. Today we are asking: “How can we hold our Christ Center and be the hands and heart of Christ to the world’s 68 million refugees? As a global community how can we here in the Pacific Northwest help our sisters and brothers?”

A Chinese story shows how grace often flows into low places. In the story of “The Rainmaker,” a village is experiencing a severe drought. After three months they call in a Rainmaker, who comes to the village and asks only for a quiet place to be alone. On the third day the rain comes! When asked what magic was used, the Rainmaker said, “I came here and found discord everywhere. So I spent time until I came into harmony and peace and then naturally the rain came.”

When we do our own inner work we allow the world around us to blossom. When we align ourselves with Christ who lives in us, the power of God’s grace flows, creating and sustaining good things.

Deepening our prayer practice is a way to connect ourselves ever more strongly to Christ. Father Thomas

Keating says that in prayer, especially prayer in community, we become one with everything that God has created. Prayer is not a retreat into our own world but an interior connection to God that opens us to all creation and allows us to hold it in love.

Giving of financial resources is always a help. A banner for an ad in the June 23rd edition of the New York Times read: “Yes, We Do Care!” The ad announced that the company running the ad would be sending 5% of its sales to Americans for Immigration Justice until the end of June.



A quiet place to be alone

There is also a call to action. Two of our Monastery Direction Statements are “to widen our Circle of Belonging” and “to cultivate Radical Hospitality.” Recently our Sister Julian Cleary, who is an attorney, joined the work of Northwest Immigrant Rights Project. In her first pro bono case, she represented a man named Mohamed from Sudan. He was applying for asylum after fleeing from torture and violence in his

country. Sister Julian says, “All along I was aware that God was in charge and that I was merely an instrument. Our immigration system is such an enormously complex one, and so few seekers are granted asylum.” But Mohamed’s application was granted. A security guard at the Tacoma Detention Center told Sister Julian that it was a miracle. Sister Julian says she felt humble as well as very grateful, “because I knew it wasn’t me.” Through the entire experience, she said she felt the strength of the St. Placid Priory praying community supporting her and Mohamed. During the preparation for the hearing, we asked her a question about what we are called to do, and Sister Julian said, “Pray, pray, pray—and let us all strive to have our words and our actions be non-violent.”

We at St. Placid also support and promote the work of the Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center whose vision is to live out of a shared Catholic faith tradition, recognizing and respecting the dignity of all persons and all creation. Their mission is to “act for justice in the church and in the world.” IPJC is sponsored by twenty-two religious communities and collaborates with Catholic, ecumenical, interfaith and other organizations in carrying out this mission.

Happy are they who take care of their sisters and brothers. One day at a time. One dollar at a time. One action at a time. One person at a time. Always depending on the continual flowing of God’s grace.





Novice Molly Cady and Sister Laura Swan attended the St. Martin's University celebration of Martin Luther King. They reported that it was a lovely evening.



Sister Raphaela makes her first monastic profession

On the Feast of St. Scholastica, February 10, our Novice Molly Cady became Sister Raphaela by making her first monastic profession. We are delighted to welcome our new Sister more deeply into monastic life!

Juan Lema, visiting us with Sister Laura's niece Genevieve Hathaway on February 10, worked on our recalcitrant wireless connections, making some improvements in reception.

Sister Laura Swan presented on the Desert Ammas for the regional gathering of The Daughters of the King, an Episcopalian women's group, held at The Franciscan Renewal Center in Phoenix, AZ beginning February 19.

On February 23, Monika Ellis, OSB, presented "Holy Spirit-filled Conversation" for a parish women's retreat in Bremerton.

Mary Franklin, who wrote an icon of St. Walburga during an icon retreat at St. Gertrude's Monastery, Cottonwood, ID, became our Candidate Mary at a ritual in St. Placid Priory's chapel on February 25, the Feast of St. Walburga.

At our March 16-18 Discernment and Election weekend, the Community of St. Placid Priory re-elected Sister Sharon McDonald as our prioress for the next four years. We are grateful for her leadership. During the celebration afterward, we presented Kerry O'Reilly, OSB, our Federation of St. Benedict president, with a green T shirt proclaiming her "Irish Federation President." Sister Kerry worked with Cecilia Dwyer, OSB, Bristow, VA, with observer Linda Soler, OSB, St. Paul, MN, as our election team.



Kerry O'Reilly, OSB

On April 1, we enjoyed the company of everyone who attended Mass at our Easter breakfast, a simple but festive meal of Easter eggs, rolls, coffee, tea, juice and lively conversation.



2018 Discerning Your Call Retreat

On April 21-22, St. Placid Priory hosted 8 participants and 6 sisters from various communities of the Archdiocese of Seattle for the "Discerning Your Call Retreat." Jo-Anne Miller, CSJP; Christine Still, OSF; Maureen Newman, SP; Teresa Shields, SNJM; Julian Cleary, OSB and Lucy Wynkoop, OSB worked together in preparation for and facilitation of the Vocation Discernment Retreat. Thanks to a flyer translated into Spanish by Margarita Hernandez, SP, more

Hispanic women joined us this year. Wonderful sharing on religious life, creative banners reflecting God's call, and time to speak with each of the Sisters, along with prayerful rituals, enlivened the gathering.

On May 1, Candidate Mary Franklin moved into the monastery to continue her discernment, and on May 2, Tricia Burns arrived for a period of discernment with our community.

Our May 4-5 Images of Peace Art Show was very well attended. We added a second day this year, and we were pleased to see how many people came on Saturday. See also page 3.

Sister Laura Swan and Postulant Camille Wooden attended the annual Board meeting of InterFaith Works in Olympia on May 8.



Sister Sharon McDonald visits with YLI member at May 23 Paper Shower

The Tahoma #67 Young Ladies Institute, Tacoma, visited us on May 23. They brought many gifts to their annual Paper Shower for us. Included were household paper products as well as journals, puzzles and puzzle books.



Frank Ludwig visits with Sisters Sharon McDonald and Laura Swan

Sister Hilberta's nephew, Frank Ludwig, and his wife Susan, came to join us for lunch on June 7, and while here visited Sister Hilberta's grave.

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The Benedictine women here at St. Placid Priory had our annual 8-day **retreat** June 11-18. This year's retreat was all in silence. We are grateful for this time of renewal.

Sister Maureen O'Larey has continued to talk to parish groups recently in support of the **Archdiocesan Capital Campaign for Retirement of Religious Women and Priests**. She joins a number of other women religious in this effort.



Sister Therese Gonneville renews her monastic promise on her 50th Jubilee

June 28 is our **Foundation Day**, when we also celebrate the birthday of **Benedicta Riepp, OSB**. This year we celebrated, in addition, the 50th Jubilee of **Sister Therese Gonneville** and the 25th Jubilee of **Sister Laura Swan**. All the Sisters renewed their monastic promise, and our Oblates renewed their oblation. We received three new **Oblate candidates**—**Katie Callahan, Donald Cairns, and Andrea Jerabek**..



Sister Laura Swan celebrates the 25th Jubilee of her monastic promise



Ken Peterson, Jessika Satori, Monika Ellis, OSB and Cheryl Gudger

Sister Monika Ellis and Oblates Cheryl Gudger, Ken Peterson and Jessika Satori attended the July 19-22 **American Benedictine Academy** at **St. Benedict's Monastery** in St. Joseph, MN. The theme was "Artisans of the Monastery." Sister Monika displayed lectern covers, on which she had felted seasonal liturgical designs. She also displayed photos of her other work—stoles with felted designs.



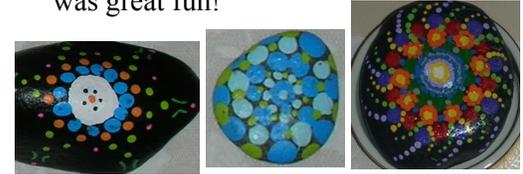
Katie Callahan, Andrea Jerabek and Donald Cairns make their commitment to Oblate candidacy for the coming year

From the Archives: Keeping Our History Alive



This artifact dates back about fifty years. After Vatican II, the priest faced the people during Mass. At that time, this crucifix was placed on St. Placid's chapel altar, facing the priest.

Back in May, **Sister Dorothy Robinson** visited family in Indiana and Ohio. Her granddaughters Nora, Áine and Fiona taught her how to paint rocks, and she brought the idea home. **Sister Monika Ellis** was especially taken with this new (to us) art form, and we decided to have a rock-painting party on July 4. Postulant Camille helped with obtaining supplies, and the party was on. It was great fun!



July 24-29, **Sister Maureen O'Larey** and **Sister Laura Swan** attended the Federation Chapter meeting of the **Federation of St. Benedict**, to which St. Placid Priory belongs. We look forward to hearing from them about Chapter discussions in our fall meetings.



Thoughts from artists who participated in our May 4-5 art show:

"I hope my photographs bring a momentary sense of peace, and stillness, and calm for you, and that my photographs allow you to "Be Still and Know" the peace and love and Joy of God."

—Dan Windisch

"The human spirit is vast and complex, interwoven in our planetary experience and that is what inspires and impassions me.

—Rella Schafer

"Looking more closely at nature is important for people because of its ability to teach us spirituality, and the potential to instill feelings of tranquility and peacefulness."

—Claudia Muzychko

GOINGS ON AT THE CENTER

Listening With the Spirit 2017-2019

LWS is a two-year formation/discernment process to become a Spiritual Director.

“Barbara Brown Taylor writes 'We go to counselors when we want help getting out of caves. We go to (spiritual) directors when we are ready to be led further in.... The way out is the way in.' My first year of learning how to be a spiritual director has been a journey into 'the way in.' With my fellow sojourners (ten other women and one brave man), under the wise direction of Sister Lucy and Mary Pandiani, we have laughed and cried together. We've shared joys, tragedies, and wounds that haven't healed—cave places we'd rather stay away from. We've also experienced innumerable blessings and explored our deepest hopes and fears. Along the way, we've grown closer to each other and to God. We've learned how to know God in a deeper way through mindfulness practices, art, Centering Prayer, *lectio* and *visio divina*, and hospitality, to name a few. Starting this fall, we will be putting what we have learned into practice with our own directees as we do our internships. We are all excited to see what God will bring next!”

—Lauri Powers

Oasis 2018-2019

Oasis offers monthly contemplative retreat time.

“I attended Oasis coming from my work, staying at the Priory and then returning to work. It really allowed me to re-focus on God and take that focus back with me to work. I am finding more possibilities arising and community developing now at work which feels at least partly related to this Oasis time and flow.”

—Charlotte Clark

Spiritual Practices in the Third Act 2018-2019

Looking at wisdom and resiliency as markers for facing the beauty and pain of getting older, this course addresses aspects of aging that require an “elegant kenosis”—letting go in the midst of embracing the life that God has given.

“This was my second year with Mary Pandiani as a facilitator and my first year with her for "Spiritual Practices of Aging." This year expanded and built on themes we had explored in "Longings of the Heart." Mary always had a gentle, sure touch in leading us to reflect and share on topics that hit close to the heart, bringing us to laughter and tears. I often came to our monthly sessions tired and out-of-sorts, thinking of all the things on my “to-do” list. But I always left in peace, feeling calm and with the deep satisfaction of having been seen, heard, and valued. There were always new ways to think about my own aging process, new practices to try and new wisdom to take to heart. This program invited me to see getting older as an opportunity to deepen my relationship with God, and to face whatever it may bring with hope.”

—Camille Wooden

Clergy Retreats 2018-2019

What would your life look like if you gave yourself three retreats per year with guided *lectio divina* and a full day of silent prayer, time to journal, time to be—whatever it is that you need?

“When I arrive at the Priory, I cross the threshold into my small, but comfortable room where I will spend roughly the next 60 hours in reading, prayer, and blessed quiet. I feel a palpable sense of peace in the room. It is as though God's presence has been prayed into these walls and it flows back on whoever enters the

space. I join the Benedictine Sisters in worship and meals, where I'm warmly welcomed. The food is delicious, but even more delicious is the quiet and the time to pray, read, walk the beautiful grounds, and simply spend conscious and focused time with God.”

—Rev. Coe Hutchinson

Beauty, Wisdom & Gratitude: A Discourse in Wholeness and Holiness, 2018

In a world fragmented by issues that divide us and challenge our sensibilities, rediscovering the power of beauty, wisdom, and gratitude helps to reestablish wholeness within ourselves and our communities. Such wholeness restores our faith, our hope, and our sense of connection to the holiness of life. Each session, we'll wrestle with questions that open us to new possibilities and *re-mind* us of our own abundant inner resources.

Becoming a Wise Elder 2019

During this interactive workshop we will explore a way of living more consciously, more joyfully and more authentically during the Second Half of Life. Through Sage-ing® we uncover the blessings that comprise the rich tapestry of our lives, and we transmit the wisdom of a lifetime of learning to heal and nurture our loved ones, our world, and ourselves.

Information about these programs and more can be found at:

www.stplacid.org

Now available:

Online registration, with payment via credit card if you choose.

Please explore new possibilities at:

www.stplacid.org

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+ Our retreats include the opportunity to **join the Sisters** for Eucharist, meals, and the Liturgy of the Hours.

+ **Spiritual Direction** may be available on retreat for an additional fee. Please contact the director you want to see to Schedule.

NEW!

+ **To register online**, or for information on our presenters, please go to our website: www.stplacid.org and look under Spirituality Center, Programs and Retreats.

Introduction to Centering Prayer

September 8
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm

Sourced from the depths of Christian contemplative tradition, Centering Prayer has emerged as a life-changing practice for those who embrace it. Learn the method or renew your practice of this ancient way of silent prayer. Our day-long format offers a relaxed way to hear the basics, practice, and ask questions.

Register by Prior Friday: \$55

Bring a sack lunch.

Minimum: 6

Bob Delastrada & Charlotte Thompson



The Fourfold Path towards Forgiveness

September 15
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm

We are all told about the importance of forgiveness in our lives, but not how to forgive. This program will focus on the fourfold path described by Desmond Tutu. Participants will learn through discussion and exercises how to use this approach in situations such as forgiving self and others, and seeking forgiveness from others. This gentle path helps us look inside of ourselves and at our world with compassion and hope.



Continued in next column...

Register by Prior Friday: \$65

Bring a sack lunch & journal or notebook.

Minimum: 5, Maximum: 10

Joseli Alves-Dunkerson

The History of the Kingdom of God

September 22
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



A consideration of sacred or salvation history from a Christian perspective and how our understanding of it shapes our lives and work. Utilizing materials and presentations from the *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* and drawing on the writings of Sofia Cavalletti, scripture scholar and catechist, will aid in adult reflection on the themes of Creation, Redemption, and Parousia.

Register by Prior Friday: \$55

Bring a sack lunch.

Minimum: 5, Maximum: 25

Joann Terranova

Sisters in Rain

September 29
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



Engaging poetry and reflective readings, we will explore feminine empowerment rising out of the spirituality of sisterhood in family, unbreakable friendships, community, and the arc of the human story. Poems will be shared embodying various media. We will have a time for writing, creating art and presenting our creations.

Register by Prior Friday: \$65

Bring a sack lunch, a photograph, and your stories of sisterhood.

Minimum: 10

Cecily Markham

Mirroring Self, Mirroring Soul Re-visited

October 6
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



Mirroring Self, Mirroring Soul is a dynamic psycho-spiritual exploration.

Through drawing the face on the mirror, we will engage with the faces that emerge through collage, writing, and somatic exploration. These faces may surface as friends, mentors or tricksters, and will lead us to illuminate what resides beneath the surface of everyday awareness.

Register by Prior Friday: \$65

Bring a sack lunch, a mirror that you don't mind drawing on, as well as any images, fabric, art materials you would like to use. Additional supplies provided. Mirrors available for \$5.

Minimum: 8, Maximum: 24

Darcie A. Richardson

NonViolent Communication

October 13
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



We will explore and practice non-violent communication (NVC), also called compassionate communication. Our sources include St. Benedict, the New Testament, Rosenberg's *Non-violent Communication*, and examples of NVC from the world. Students will develop steps for moving toward more non-violent communication. The day will include creative activities.

Register by Prior Friday: \$65

Bring a sack lunch.

Minimum: 5, Maximum: 15

Janet Rhodes

Silent Centering Prayer Retreat

October 19-21, 2018
Friday 7:15pm-Sunday 1:30pm

This silent retreat is a rare opportunity for experienced practitioners to be with others committed to the contemplative path. Sustained by multiple periods of Centering Prayer and tapping into chant, lectio divina, and meditative walking, we intentionally create an environment that supports our continuing Centering Prayer practice.

Register by Prior Friday: \$225

Minimum: 6, Maximum: 9

Bob Delastrada & Charlotte Thompson

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Moving With the Kingdom Within

October 27
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



The Kingdom of God inaugurated by Jesus invites us into the "Divine Sphere of Love," where we experience the life-giving love of God flowing to, within, and from us. Simple Qi Gong and Tai Chi movements help us picture this Sphere, embody its prayers, and enter its flow.

Register by Prior Friday: \$55
Bring a sack lunch and wear comfortable shoes.
Minimum: 10, Maximum: 20
Steve Reiland

Cinema Divina Retreat

November 2-4
Fri. 7:15pm-Sun. 11:00am



Open your mystical heart in communion with others in this restorative weekend-long retreat of rest, film screenings and personal writing. Re-imagining the ancient lectio divina prayer practice both for film watching and creative writing, Marilyn Freeman will engage participants in meditative screenings of short films made for contemplation and in generative personal writing.

Register by Prior Friday: \$235
Bring preferred writing devices/materials
Minimum: 7
Marilyn Freeman

Sketching Grace

November 10
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



"You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you..." Sketching prayerfully will help us find God-ness in our daily life. We will discuss materials for and the process in this spiritual practice. No art background necessary.

Register by Prior Friday: \$55
Bring sack lunch, sketchbook, ink pen, pencil, and favorite coloring tools.
Minimum: 5
Roy DeLeon

Discerning a Path Forward Using SoulCollage®.

November 17
Sat. 9:00am-3:00pm



Learn a new method for discernment, guided by your intuition and unconscious, of gathering pictures that grab you and combining them into collages. Explore places, people, causes, and animals you love. Reveal energies that can help you and/or hold you back.

Register by Prior Friday: \$65
Bring a sack lunch.
Minimum: 5
Pamela Bradburn

Advent Retreat: Waiting with Mary

Nov. 30-Dec. 2
Fri. 7:30pm-Sun. 11:00am



During this silent retreat you will experience a guided imagery time, receive handouts to use during the retreat, and reflective times to prepare your heart and yourself to receive the blessings that Jesus wishes to give to you this Christmas, and what you may be called to live out from this retreat. Spiritual direction is also available.

Register by November 16 \$175
with Spiritual Direction \$215
Minimum: 3, Maximum: 10
Therese Gonneville, OSB

O Antiphons Retreat-- Hope: Past, Present and Future

December 8
Sat. 9:00am-3:00pm



Advent – "What are you waiting for?" The ancient O Antiphons invite us today into a deep encounter with God and each other as we prepare to celebrate the Feast of the Incarnation. Engaging each of the verses of the hymn we know as "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" will help us to connect the coming of Jesus in the past, present, and future.

Continued in next column...

Register by Prior Friday: \$55
Bring a sack lunch.
Minimum: 12
Katherine Rickert

Lectio with Threads of Meaning

January 5
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



Carole King wrote, "Our life is like a tapestry...." During this day of reflection we will choose individual yarns of various hues and spend time considering our choices. We will then integrate our reflections by braiding the yarns together into a beautiful cord using a kumihimo pattern. This hands on experience of Japanese braiding is easy, fun, and contemplative.

Register by Prior Friday: \$55
Bring a sack lunch.
Minimum: 5
Sister Monika Ellis

Holy Leisure

January 12
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



Leisure is an essential part of Benedictine spirituality. It is not idleness but a quality of the depth and breadth of life. In this workshop we will explore monastic leisure by looking at its use in the Rule of Benedict and how we might think about it as we apply it to our own lives in a busy, wired-in world. Our day will include experiences of monastic leisure.

Register by Prior Friday: \$55
Bring a sack lunch and journal.
Minimum: 5
Postulant Camille Wooden

The Hospitality of Adoption

January 19
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm

We will explore the spiritual practice of hospitality for people who's lives have been touched by the experience

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of adoption. Drawing on James Gritter's book *Hospitious Adoption* as a resource, we will consider how adoption might inform our understanding of hospitality, and how hospitality might inform our experience of adoption.

Register by Prior Friday: \$55

Bring a sack lunch.

Minimum: 5; Maximum: 25

Joann Terranova

Dark Night of the Soul: A Contemplative Journey

January 26
Sat. 9:00am-3:00pm



St. John of the Cross wrote a luminous poem that speaks to seekers of God everywhere. Feelings of sadness, loneliness and fear visit each of us, but the Dark Night is a different and essential stage in the soul's journey. What is their spiritual purpose and gift? In this contemplative workshop, we will explore the poem's rich map of the soul.

Register by Prior Friday: \$65

Bring a sack lunch.

Minimum: 10 Maximum: 25

Jodi Kilcup, Ph.D.

Benedictine Vocation Discernment

January 26-27
Saturday 8:30am-Sunday 12:30pm

Join the Sisters to listen to your call. Pray with Scripture and the Prologue of the Rule of Benedict. Experience being with the Sisters in a community setting for reflection time, prayer, dialogue, work and leisure. If you are a single, Catholic woman age 25-55, discerning whether you have a vocation to the Benedictine way of life, this is a wonderful opportunity to share in community life with the Sisters of St. Placid Priory.

Register by January 14: No fee
Benedictine Sisters

Contact Sister Lucy Wynkoop at
lucywynkoop@gmail.com, call 360-
438-2595, or register online.

Women of Wisdom: Writing from the Heart

February 2
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



We will explore our heritage with women of wisdom by reading and reflecting on their writings, including poems by Mary Frye, Hildegard of Bingen, Fatimah Baraghani and others. There will be time for meditation, guided visualization, journaling, and sharing.

Register by Prior Friday: \$55

Bring a sack lunch, journal, and pen.

Minimum: 5

Anatha Attar, MA

Lipstick, Old Keys & The Hand Held Mirror

February 9
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm

In Session 2, we will explore in greater depth, poetic metaphor and symbology, and the spiritual and transformational power of poetry. Poems will be experienced engaging various mediums embodying dream imagery, music, and photographic visuals. Participants will be offered creative time for writing and art and sharing their creations. **Note** – Participants who did not attend Session 1 are most welcome to attend Session 2.

Register by Prior Friday: \$65

Bring a sack lunch, paper, as well as

writing and art supplies

Minimum: 10

Cecily Markham

Introduction to an 11th Step Prayer Practice

February 16
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm

The Mission: We are 12 Step People who practice Centering Prayer as our 11th Step and pass it on to others in 12 Step Recovery. Centering Prayer can help deepen our application of the 12 Steps generally, and the 11th Step specifically, through daily immersion in prayer and meditation. We believe that when applied as a daily supplement to the 12 Steps, Centering Prayer opens us to the deepest dimension of spirituality.

Register by prior Friday

No fee; Donation at the door

Bring a sack lunch

Gordon C. and David M.

Felting with Sister Monika

Felting is a fun and creative activity that changes airy and light wool strands into solid fabrics and forms. We'll use a foam pad, a needle and wool roving (wool prepared for spinning) to do our felting. No experience necessary; materials are included as indicated below.

When: Saturdays, 9:00-11:15 a.m.

What: Sep. 8 – Felting a Bird

Oct. 20 – Felting an Appliqué

Mar. 9 – Felting an Easter Egg

Where: St. Placid Multi-purpose Room

Maximum participants: 12 per class

Register for any or all classes—fee includes \$5 for materials:

Sep. 8 \$40

Oct 20 \$40

Mar 9, 2019 \$40

Women's Book Group

A lively group of readers/thinkers who enjoy sharing about many kinds of religious and spiritual topics. Wisdom Women meets 7:30-9 pm the first Monday of the month in the Spirituality Center. Our first fall gathering is October 1. At this first meeting we will reflect on a book we have read over the summer, *Evensong* by Gail Godwin. We have chosen five other books (three of them are 150 pages or less). For November, December and January, we will read and discuss *Another Way Home*, a book about "the interspiritual Jesus" and the Sacred Feminine, by Ruth Ann Lonardelli, a Washington State author. The titles and dates for the other books will be available at the first gathering in October, or call Sister Mary Giles if you are joining the group after that date.

New members are always welcome! For more information, please contact facilitator **Sister Mary Giles** at **360.438.1771. \$50 per year donation to The Spirituality Center to attend.**

You can now register and pay online—it's convenient, fast and secure. We look forward to seeing you!

For This We Give Thanks

Brother Boniface of **St. Martin's Abbey**, traveling to Spain to renew friendships, wanted to bring something handmade and light-weight for special friends. He chose five colorful birds created by Priory Fiber Artists—total weight, less than two ounces. And they were a "huge hit" according to Brother Boniface. He returned from **Monasterio de San Pelayo** with gifts from Spanish Benedictine women to American Benedictines at St. Placid Priory. One of the gifts was a handpainted card of a bird. We are grateful for this lovely connection between our Benedictine houses, and to Brother Boniface!

We give thanks for the healing promises of Scripture:

"We will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words." I Thess. 4:18

+ J. Robertson
+ Pollyanna Sieberath
+ John Hoffman
+ Andrew Labrecque
+ Darrell Jesse
+ Father Benedict Auer
+ Jim Erickson
+ Fr. Timothy Lamm, OSB

We give thanks for the life and works of **Servant of God Dorothy Day**—and we invite you to join us and **St. Procopius Abbey**, where she was a Benedictine Oblate, in their prayer for her canonization:

"O God, may the Church recognize the holiness of Dorothy Day, Servant of God and Benedictine Oblate of St. Procopius Abbey, especially in her dedication to the liturgy, her desire for the justice of God's Kingdom, and her devotion to the poor as persons in whom Christ is welcomed. Amen."



Irene Bergford Schade, St. Placid High School class of 1978, cooked and served a lovely meal for all of us at St. Placid. Irene shared that she is reading "a fabulous book" called *The Table Experience*. This has challenged her in new ways about sitting at the table, because "Jesus shows up at every meal!" We truly give thanks for this kind of nurturing and faith sharing.

Community members of St. Placid gathered with friends of **Jill Heine** to bless her Home, which she had dedicated as Sacred Space for prayer. Jill has taken on a Ministry of Hospitality to folks who want to drop in for Prayer and Silence. Call or text Jill for more information at 505-280-8724. We are grateful for Jill's generous spirit.

You may recall **Sister Damaris' Christmas Table** in our lobby each year, where nice gifts could be purchased. We are continuing her tradition, and we would be grateful for donations of particularly nice things to sell during the holidays as gifts. Call us or stop by!

We give thanks for all those who support St. Placid Priory and our ministries. We have been working on our **website** recently, and now are happy to announce that donations can be made to us online. In addition to our **Donate** button, we have added a **Prayer Request** button where you can send us your special prayer requests. The Work of God, the prayer of the Church, is what we do each day. Please let us know of your special intentions so we can include them in our daily prayer. +

Oblate News

June was a busy, eventful month for St. Placid Oblates. There were three 3-day retreats, two of them silent. Many oblates took the opportunity to join the Sisters in worship and prayer. June 28, Foundation Day, is our traditional day to welcome new candidates and oblates. There were no new oblates but we welcomed three new candidates: **Andrea Jerabek**, **Donald Cairns** and **Katherine Callahan** (see page 3). In September we will welcome two more candidates: **Jessika Satori** and **Suzanne Johnson**. Each candidate has an Oblate and a Sister mentor who will journey with them through the year and beyond. Blessings to them and their mentors as they begin this process.

June 29-July 1, St. Placid Priory and St. Martin's Abbey oblates co-hosted the NW Regional North American Association of Benedictine Oblate Directors conference.

Oblates and directors from British Columbia, Idaho, Oregon and Washington met at St. Martin's University to hear reports from the International Oblate Congress which had met in Rome last November. The theme for the congress and for the regional conference was "A Way Forward." Oblates here listened and then discussed their hopes and dreams for the future of their communities. These regional meetings are held every two years on a rotating basis with national gatherings.

Several St. Placid Oblate volunteers gave their time, treasure and spirit to make the NAABOD gathering a success: **Liz Langeland**, **Rosemarie Oliver**, **Cheryl Gudger**, **Bonnie Westmark**, **Barbara Williams**, **Anna Peterson**, **Andrea Langeland**, **Brian Peterson**, **Andrea Jerabek**, **Tess Sutton** and **Marilyn Freeman**. We thank God for all of you!

We, the Benedictine Sisters of St. Placid Priory, a monastic community, cultivate a contemplative spirit that leads to hospitality and works of peace and justice. We witness Gospel values in building community. We nurture spiritual growth in ourselves and others, extend reverence to all people, promote collaborative leadership, and care for the global home.

The Priory Spirituality Center

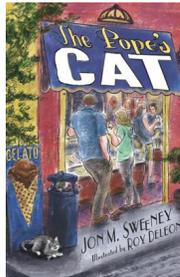
is an ecumenical Christian ministry that encourages people of all faiths to seek and discern the voice of God in their lives and in the world. We offer a peaceful and contemplative setting for personal reflection. We encourage and challenge people to know the presence of God in their lives through classes, workshops, retreats and individual spiritual direction.

The Priory Spirituality Center is a ministry of St. Placid Priory and reflects the Benedictine values of peace, hospitality, community, learning and prayerful discernment.

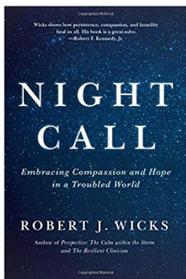


Sister Laura's Scriptorium:
Books that Merit Attention

The Pope's Cat by Jon Sweeney, Paraclete Press, 2018. This delightful book for children (and children at heart) is illustrated by our very own, and very talented Oblate Roy DeLeon. Meet the cat adopted by the pope who takes over the Vatican!



Night Call. Embracing Compassion and Hope in a Troubled World by Robert Wicks, Oxford, 2018. Wicks is one of the wise elders in the world of spiritual direction and pastoral counseling. These chapters reflect his years of speaking on resilience, compassion, self-care, and maintaining healthy balance in our lives. An especially good resource for all of us in the helping professions.



Mending the Heart. A Catholic Annulment Companion by Lisa Duffy, Our Sunday Visitor, 2018. Surprised by my choice? This came recommended to me by those who handle Annulment processes and highly recommended by our store manager. Duffy is a divorce recovery coach and instituted The Journey of Hope program, found across the country. This is not a technical manual, although her information about the process is accurate; rather it focuses on aching questions of the heart and how to grow spiritually through this process.



Registration: You may use this form to register for a day program, a retreat program or a private retreat. **The Center is open for private retreats unless a programmed retreat is scheduled.** For more information, call 360.438.2595, fax 360.438.9236 or email spiritualityctr@stplacid.org Make checks payable to: **The Priory Spirituality Center**, located at 500 College St NE, Lacey WA 98516.

You may also REGISTER ONLINE & pay with credit card at www.stplacid.org/spirituality-center **NEW!**

Please register me for the following program/s &/or retreat/s:

Program _____

Program Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Tel _____ Eve Tel _____

Email _____

Commuter? _____ Overnight? _____ (Willing to share a double room if necessary? Yes _____ No _____)

Spiritual Direction may be available by appointment. Please call 360.438.2595

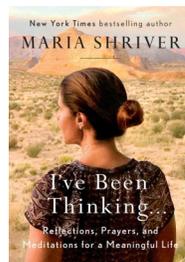
We request half the registration fee as a non-refundable deposit for a program or retreat at the time of registration to confirm space. Any donation you make above program costs will be used for scholarships.

Full Payment enclosed \$ _____

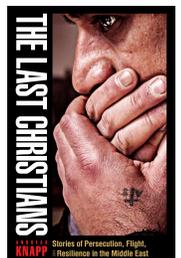
Deposit enclosed \$ _____

Scholarship Donation enclosed \$ _____

I've Been Thinking... by Maria Shriver, Random House, 2018. This has quickly become a popular sell in our bookstore. Shriver shares inspiring quotes, prayers and reflections to get us thinking, feeling, and laughing on our journey to a place of acceptance and joy – regardless of what happens in our life's journey.



The Last Christians. Stories of Persecution, Flight, and Resilience in the Middle East, by Father Andreas Knapp, Plough, 2017. As a Little Brother of the Gospel (inspired by Charles de Foucauld), Father Knapp traveled among the Christian remnant of Iraq and Syria, seeking a link between religion and violence. He met a people harboring no thirst for revenge. Knapp believes that if Christians in the West will step up to support the Syrian/Iraqi Christian desire for an end to this cycle of violence, then violence will end.





**Benedictine Sisters
St. Placid Priory**
The Priory Spirituality Center
The Conference Center
The Priory Store
500 College St NE
Lacey, WA 98516-5339

Fall - Winter
August 2018

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What's New at the Priory Store –

—by Zoila Roberts

The beautiful weather of summer has come, and soon we will be welcoming a new school year and all the exciting things that come with it.

Here at the Priory Store, we continue to provide the things you may need for a special occasion.

Recently, a kind and generous retired engineer donated an assortment of beautiful new glass crosses, which were created by a local artist. This person has also donated numerous other things purchased especially for us to sell. They are on display at the store and range from wall hangings to bracelets. We are grateful for this generosity.



We also have many excellent books to fill a variety of needs: comfort in grieving, hope in healing, and help in spiritual development. There are others, too, for your enjoyment and faith enrichment. You're welcome to come and browse.

Spirituality Center Staff

Janice Ariza – Center Coordinator
Lucy Wynkoop, OSB – Program Coordinator
Mary Giles Mailhot, OSB – Staff
Monika Ellis, OSB – Staff
Therese Gonnevillle, OSB – Staff

Weekend Hospitality Staff

Oblate Eva Hayward-George
Oblate Kathy Androes-Downes
Candidate Mary Franklin
Volunteer Tricia Burns
Volunteer Alicia Boulet

Directions

Coming South on I-5

Take Exit 109
Right turn onto Martin Way
Right at next light onto College St. NE
Second Right turn is our driveway

Coming North on I-5

Take Exit 109
Left turn onto Martin Way
Right at second light onto College St. NE
Second Right turn is our driveway

The Priory Store welcomes as payment VISA and MasterCard. We gratefully continue to accept telephone orders and special orders for books and religious articles. Call us at 360-438-1771.

The Store, located off the lobby in the Priory, is open Friday Noon to 3:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM.