Once upon a time (six years after the Diocese of Covington was established and a year and a half before Abraham Lincoln was elected president), five Benedictine sisters established a monastery in Covington, Kentucky. At the request of Bishop Aloysius Carrell, Mother Scholastica Burkhard of St. Benedict’s Convent in Erie, Pennsylvania sent the sisters to “take charge of the girls’ school” (from the community annals) in the German immigrant parish of St. Joseph.

Between 1859 and 2009 many events have formed the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery. This issue of LEAVEN commemorates those events, the many blessings of God upon this community through our friends and benefactors and the talented, faithful members, living and deceased, of this community. This page of LEAVEN illustrates the reverence with which we hold our Benedictine values and heritage. The bottom of the page is a section from an 1895 painting by Johann Schmitt, a local painter and the teacher of Frank Duveneck. The full painting is of our patroness, St. Walburg. At her feet are the monastery and St. Walburg Academy on 12th Street in Covington next to St. Joseph School and Church. The painting hangs in the monastery dining room reminding us of our beginnings and those pioneer women who came with three pennies and three years later began to build with fifty dollars in hand. All of the buildings are now gone but the values that inspired their construction live on.

continued on page 3
The Prioress Writes

Three Pennies and a Million Friends!

Old stories and a new word come together as the community opens the celebration of our 150th anniversary of foundation. Our records tell the story that Mother Alexia Lechner arrived in Covington in 1859 with three cents. The community’s Namibian friends teach us the new word, *uumtuwomuntu*, meaning, “I become a person because of other people.” This Leaven issue will demonstrate the truth of old stories and a new word.

Three cents and $17.00 tuition might have gone farther in 1859 than in the current economy, but they could not provide rent, food and teaching materials for long! Mother Alexia and three sisters relied on their faith in God’s providence and their neighbors and friends.

The community first stayed in a four-room house owned by the Hagenmann family on Kuhr St. near St. Joseph parish school. Stories tell us Catherine Adams brought hot coffee during the school’s morning recess and insisted that the sisters go in to drink it. She probably did not know that they watered it down and saved half for the next meal. A near-by store extended credit for groceries. Through the generosity and kindness of friends and parishioners the sisters were able to purchase lots on 12th Street near St. Joseph Church. With the additional help of Union soldiers the first monastery building was built in 1862.

I learned the word *uumtuwomuntu* during my last visit with the Benedictine Sisters in Namibia. African children learn early that they need the people in order to grow and become what they are called to be. A review of these pages brings to mind countless unnamed persons who helped us build St. Walburg Academy in 1890 and Villa Madonna Academy in 1904. Many of you now reading this letter might remember the Christmas cards you sold or bought that helped us build our current monastery building in Villa Hills. With your help we turned a chicken hatchery into a hospital in Colorado and opened Madonna Manor to care for the elderly. The children, the sick and the elderly formed us (*uumtuwomuntu* again!) into skilled and resourceful teachers, nurses and ministers in a variety of service areas.

The community’s most energizing project for the sesquicentennial celebration is our decision to give something back to the neighborhood that welcomed us 150 years ago. We are partnering with HONK (Housing Opportunities of Northern Kentucky) to build a house in Covington for a low income family. Construction on the house, located within three blocks of our first monastery, began on the feast of St. Scholastica this year.

There is no end to the community’s gratitude to you for the continuous support over 150 years. This year we are especially grateful to those who joined us in building the House of Blessing in Covington. Faith in God’s steadfast love, fidelity to our vocation and the generosity and help of our friends and neighbors have made us better persons and enabled us to be the monastic community we are called to be. Keep up your good work in us!

Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup, Prioress
1859–2009...Celebrating 150 Years...Then and Now

continued from page 1

As we live the monastic life in the 21st century, we proclaim our mission:

We Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery, faithful to our monastic profession, seek God in community, prayer and work.

We celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ and serve him in all God’s people, the young and the old, the sick and the poor, the stranger and the guest.
Moments In Our History

1859  (June) Sisters Josephine Buerkle, Anselma Shoenhofer and Ruperta Albert came from Erie, Pennsylvania to Covington, Kentucky, to teach the German children of St. Joseph Parish. The superior, Sister Alexia Lechner, and Sister Salesia Haas arrived August 2. Two postulants entered in 1860. One was Helen Saelinger who became Sister Walburga and later the second prioress.

1862  The young community acquired property on Twelfth Street and built a monastery by the end of 1862. On December 11 Bishop Aloysius Carrell, first Bishop of Covington, solemnly blessed the new St. Walburg Monastery. Twelve community members moved in that day.

1863  The community established St. Walburg Academy for boarders and day students.

1867  St. Walburg Monastery obtained a charter of incorporation required by Kentucky law. Sister Benedicta Berns went to Ferdinand, Indiana with three other sisters at the invitation of the Benedictine Fathers of St. Meinrad to establish a community to take charge of schools in that area. Other foundations followed. (See the Foundations, p. 13)

1869  Purchased a 38 acre farm (called Subiaco) on Horsebranch Road. Sold when community purchased Villa Madonna property.

1871  Began to staff St. John Orphanage, as well as the parish school. (See Schools, p. 14–15)

1889  Sister Walburga Saelinger elected “Acting Prioress.” Mother Alexia given the title “Honorary Prioress” for life.

1890  Built a new St. Walburg Academy building on Twelfth Street.

1891  (December 13) Mother Alexia died on December 13.

1892  Mother Alexia buried in the newly purchased space in Mother of God Cemetery. Remains of nine sisters buried in Buena Vista Cemetery, transferred and buried alongside her in one grave.  
(August 10) Mother Walburga re-elected prioress.
Moments In Our History

1893  First retreat in English for the Sisters.

1903  Bought the 86 acre Collins farm and residence overlooking the Ohio River (about nine miles from Covington). An academy and eventually a new motherhouse planned for the property.

Property named Villa Madonna, placed under the patronage of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

1904  Villa Madonna Academy opened in the Collins House with Sister Vincentia Dolan as Directress.

Ten boarders from St. Walburg Academy in Covington transferred to Villa Madonna.

1907  New VMA building opened with facilities for grade and high school boarders and day students.

1916  (August 25) Monastery Chapter voted to transfer the novitiate to Villa Madonna.

1918  Flu epidemic. Sisters sent to various areas of Covington and the mountains of Eastern Kentucky to care for the sick.

1921  Villa Madonna College, a Normal School under the direction of Sister Domitilla Thuener, opened at Villa Madonna.

1926  Mother Walburga elected for the 11th time.

Nine sisters sent to Notre Dame University for summer school in advanced studies.

1928  Bishop Howard informed the community that he wished Villa Madonna College to be a diocesan teachers’ college.

(December 29) Sister Margaret Hugenberg elected 3rd prioress.
Moments In Our History

1929  First mention in Council minutes of suggestion to adopt the Divine Office in place of the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
      Villa Madonna College became a diocesan college under Bishop Howard. Three religious communities in the diocese shared administration and teaching functions.

1931  Community Chapter voted to close St. Walburg Academy in Covington.
      Stone entrance pillars erected at entrance to Villa Madonna grounds.
      (December 26) Sister Lioba Holz elected the 4th prioress.

1932  Community Council voted to transfer the Motherhouse to Villa Madonna.
      Preparatory school opened for Villa students interested in religious life.

1934  Community Diamond Jubilee (75) years, Mass of Thanksgiving in the Covington cathedral.
      Community newsletter, Inter Nos, established to keep the sisters informed of life on missions and record progress in building and financing the new motherhouse at Villa Madonna.

1935  Chapter voted to build new monastery at Villa Madonna.

1936  Bishop Howard gave the community permission to recite the Latin Divine Office instead of the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary “in so far as it will not interfere with teaching.”
      Bishop Howard gave permission to build new monastery.
      (June 11) Groundbreaking for new monastery.

1937  Villa Madonna became Red Cross flood relief station.
      (May 31) New building, St. Walburg Monastery, on Amsterdam Road, dedicated.
      Sister Lioba received written permission from Bishop Howard for the community to join the Congregation of St. Scholastica and to adopt the organization’s constitution on trial basis for three years.

1938  Community began praying the Divine Office in June.
      Chapter decided that the 15 decade rosary beads were not part of the Benedictine habit.
      (July 7–10) Community sponsored first retreat for women.

1943  (July 10) Sister Domitilla Thuener elected 5th prioress to succeed Sister Lioba Holz who resigned.
Moments In Our History

1943  Community Chapter voted to join the Congregation of St. Scholastica.
      Community formally joined April 4, 1944.

1945  Bishop Mulloy asked sisters to undertake hospital work in Hazard, Kentucky. (See Hospitals, p. 15)
      Mother Domitilla and Sister Lioba visited Duluth, Minnesota to learn about hospital work. Three sisters sent to study and train.

1946  Community received permission from Rome to undertake hospital work for 10 years.
      Chapter voted to accept St. Joseph Hospital in Florence, Colorado.
      Two sisters sent to transform Colonial Poultry Farms into St. Joseph Hospital.

1947  Chapter voted to accept Bishop Mulloy’s request to staff hospital in Hazard, Kentucky.

1949  Chapter voted to accept and staff Sante Fe Hospital in La Junta, Colorado.

1955  (September 17) Sister Hilda Obermeier elected 6th prioress.

1956  Sister Hilda received permission from Rome to borrow one million dollars to build new Villa Madonna Academy building.

1958  Chapter voted to staff Estill County Hospital in Irvine, Kentucky.
      (April 27) New Villa Madonna building dedicated.

      (September 9) Marcum and Wallace Hospital opened in Estill County, Irvine, Kentucky. Opening planned for September 10, but a baby was born on the 9th.

1955–1958: Million dollar mortgage and new VMA high school building
Moments In Our History

1962  Chapter voted to say Divine Office in English.
1963  Villa Madonna Preparatory School discontinued.
1964  (January 7) Community began praying the Divine Office in English.

   (December 2) Madonna Manor opened.
1965  (August 23) Four sisters left for Pomata, Peru to serve the Altiplano Indians in Diocese of Juli until 1971.
1967  Farming discontinued on monastery property.
1968  Groundbreaking for new infirmary wing.

   Barn and playground areas used for inner city children summer camp.
1969  (June 23–July 28) Community held Summer Renewal Program to study and implement changes suggested by Vatican II.

   Over fifty sisters chose to return to their baptismal names.
   First motherhouse and St. Walburg Academy buildings in Covington razed.
   Portion of monastery land leased for $1 a year to the city of Villa Hills for ball fields.

1964: Madonna Manor

1965: First sisters missioned to Peru (left to right, back: Srs. Stephanie Manning, Janine Walther, Annita Schirmer; front: Sr. Nicholas Jones)

1968: Barn Program

1969: Demolition of Original Monastery
Moments In Our History

1970  (November 27) Sr. Ruth Yost elected 8th prioress.

1972  Barn renovated into classrooms to begin Villa Madonna Montessori.

1977  House at 505 Russell Street in Covington began as a house of hospitality.
      Villa Madonna Elementary School became co-educational.

1978  (April 8) Sister Justina Franxman elected 9th prioress.
      Internal community newsletter revived and named *Word Within*.
      Newsletter called *Leaven* established for relatives, friends, benefactors and general public.

1979  Boarding school at Villa Madonna Academy discontinued.
      Senior House became the Guest House and dormitories used for hospitality and various other purposes.
      Facility became known as Villa Madonna Center.

1980  Community celebrated the Sesquimillennium Year of our Holy Father Benedict (480 C.E.)

1981  Villa Hills Day Care opened in Center Building.

1983  VMA Board of Directors expanded to include lay members.

1984  (February 25) began 125th anniversary of St. Walburg Monastery

1985  VMA High School became coeducational.
      (November 16) Community approved Benedictine Associates (now known as Oblates) Program.

1986  (February 17) Madonna Manor opened its personal care wing.
      (March 10) Tornado irreparably damaged the Manor Sisters’ house.
Moments In Our History

1986  (April 6) Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup elected 10th prioress.

1987  (March 21) Twenty-eight women and men began the Benedictine Associate Program with Sister Martha Walther as Program Director.

Eleven sisters from St. Scholastica Priory in Covington, Louisiana chose to transfer to St. Walburg Monastery. Eventually thirteen transferred.

1988  (October 22) Community approved plans for renovation of chapel.

1989  (August 19) Committee established to produce new Liturgy of the Hours/Divine Office books.

(December 2) First Vespers of Advent celebrated in renovated chapel.

1990  (February 4 and 11) Open House for renovated chapel.

(February 25) Dedication of renovated chapel

Upon recommendations from Chapter of the Federation of St. Scholastica, community undertook a Revitalization Program focusing on community life, ministry, formation/vocation, temporalities and governance.

1991  Community began using new Liturgy of the Hours books.

1992  Renovation Survey Committee distributed survey to the community based on suggestions received concerning renovation of motherhouse.

1993  (September 25) Community voted to renovate motherhouse and to study need for renovation of Infirmary wing.

1994  St. Walburg Monastery received large bequest from estate of Margaret Hay Edwards, a VMA alumna.

1995  (November 11) Community affirmed proposal to use a portion of the income earned from Margaret Hay Edwards Trust for social needs such as housing, hunger, health and education.
Moments In Our History

1996 Committee began to study sponsorship issues concerning Madonna Manor and Villa Madonna Academy.
(September 21) Community voted to renovate infirmary wing.

1997 (December 6) Community indicated support for feasibility study to be undertaken at Villa Madonna Academy for future planning.

1998 (April 19) Sister Rita Brink elected 11th prioress.
First recipients of the Social Needs Fund grants were announced. Fifty thousand dollars awarded in grants.

Madonna Manor Board authorized signing of management agreement with Benedictine Health System, Duluth, Minnesota.

Madonna Manor hired Susan McConn, first lay administrator.

Sr. Rita announced Internal Monastic Renewal Program for community.

1999 Community received a report on VMA’s capital campaign plans and athletic building project.

Committee began work on Liturgy of the Hours books’ revision with addition of more music.

2000 Community welcomed new millennium with special activities and prayers.

(April 15) Community received overview of strategic planning at Madonna Manor and reports from consulting agencies.

The Center of Spirituality held its first day of reflection.

VMA athletic building completed.

2001 Community received reports on Trends in Health Care affecting Madonna Manor, the facilities assessment study and review of the market feasibility study.

Michael Whalen became Villa Madonna Academy’s first president.

Sisters Mary Catherine Wenstrup and Martha Walther traveled to Namibia, Africa to assist Benedictine Sisters there.
Moments In Our History

2002 Completion of cemetery renovation.

2004 (February 21) Community expressed its support for seeking a relationship with a healthcare system that would take over facilities and operations of Madonna Manor with little or no involvement by the monastery.

2006 (April 23) Sister Mary Catherine Wenstrup elected 12th prioress.

Committee appointed to work on the 2009 sesquicentennial celebration.

(November 16) Community voted to authorize administration of St. Walburg Monastery to sign a Definitive Agreement with Franciscan Care Centers and Franciscan Services Corporation regarding transfer of Madonna Manor.

2007 (February 9–August 4) Two sisters from Namibia came to St. Walburg Monastery to study English, budgeting, financial planning and management, the psalms and to learn about monastic life in United States.

(February 15) Madonna Manor, Inc. was transferred to Franciscan Sisters of Sylvania, Ohio to become a member of the Franciscan Care Centers.

(December 15) Community voted to replace windows in main monastery building and air condition areas not yet air conditioned.

2008 (June) A/C and window replacement project in monastery building completed.

(October 3) Groundbreaking ceremony for sesquicentennial House of Blessing project with Housing Opportunities of Northern Kentucky.

“The Meaning of Monastic Life” stained glass window in monastery gathering space, designed by Sr. Emmanuel Pieper.
## Foundations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Daughter-House:</th>
<th>Monastery Immaculate Conception, Ferdinand, Indiana</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FOUNDED:</strong></td>
<td>1867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PIONEERS:</strong></td>
<td>Four young sisters; <strong>Sr. Benedicta Berns</strong> (age 22) superior. Later elected first prioress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INDEPENDENCE:</strong></td>
<td>1871</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Second Daughter-House:</th>
<th>St. Scholastica Priory, Covington, Louisiana</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FOUNDED:</strong></td>
<td>1870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PIONEERS:</strong></td>
<td>Eight sisters; Sister Teresa Timmers, superior; <strong>Sr. Scholastica Hoeveler</strong>, first prioress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INDEPENDENCE:</strong></td>
<td>1873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2nd Group:</strong></td>
<td>1873 from Covington, Kentucky to New Orleans, Louisiana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PIONEERS:</strong></td>
<td>Five sisters; Sister Gertrude Bauer, superior.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INDEPENDENCE:</strong></td>
<td>1877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MERGER:</strong></td>
<td>1877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRIORY CLOSED:</strong></td>
<td>1998</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Third Daughter-house:</th>
<th>Sacred Heart Monastery, Cullman, Alabama.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FOUNDED:</strong></td>
<td>Tuscumbia, Alabama, 1881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PIONEERS:</strong></td>
<td>Five sisters; <strong>Sr. Evangelista Pfraengle</strong>, superior.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Given to the Benedictine sisters from St. Leo Monastery, Florida in 1900.

| **2nd Group:**         | 1886 from Covington, Kentucky to Birmingham, Alabama. |
| **PIONEERS:**          | Seven sisters; Sister Evangelista Pfraengle, (sent from Tuscumbia) superior. |
| **INDEPENDENCE:**      | 1902. Two communities from Florida and Kentucky united and became Sacred Heart Monastery, Cullman, Alabama. Sister Ottilia Haas from Covington, first prioress. |
Schools and Hospitals

SCHOOLS

1859  St. Joseph School, Covington, KY
1863  St. Walburg Academy, Covington, KY
1867  Several Schools in Ferdinand, IN
1870  Holy Family School, in Trinity Parish, New Orleans, LA
1871  St. John’s Orphanage, Fort Mitchell, KY
1873  St. Boniface School, New Orleans, LA
1875  Annunciation Parish, Paris, KY
1880  Holy Guardian Angels School, Sandfordtown, KY
1881  St. Scholastica and St. Joseph Schools in Tuscumbia, AL
1885  St. Benedict School, Covington, KY
1886  St. Rose School, Fulton, OH
1886  Holy Angels School and St. Paul’s Elementary School in Birmingham, AL
1891  Holy Cross School, Milldale (Latonia), KY
1899  St. Henry School, Erlanger, KY
1904  Villa Madonna Academy established
1906  Ground broken for new VMA building
1907  VMA building ready for occupancy—both grade and high school
1916  St. Anthony School, Forest Hills, KY
1918  St. Joseph School, Crescent Springs, KY
1921  Blessed Sacrament School, Fort Mitchell, KY
1921  St. James School, Brooksville, KY
1921  Villa Madonna College founded by Covington Benedictines at Villa Madonna
1923  St. Paul School, Florence, KY
1927  St. Therese School, Southgate, KY
1929  Villa Madonna College moved to 12th Street in Covington—became diocesan
1931  St. Walburg Academy, Covington, discontinued

continued on next page
Staffed by Benedictine Sisters

(SCHOOLS CONTINUED)

1947  Catechetical work began in Hazard while preparations are made for Mount Mary Hospital to open
1948  Good Counsel Center and Kindergarten, Hazard, KY
1948  Sts. Peter and Paul School, Danville, KY
1948  Sts. Peter and Paul School, Twelve Mile, KY
1949  All Saints School, Walton, KY
1951  Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Patrick Schools, La Junta, CO
1953  St. Ann Parish, Manchester, KY
1954  St. Francis Xavier School, Falmouth, KY
1954  St. Pius X School, Edgewood, KY (Holy Guardian Angels Parish closed)
1955  Special education classes began at St. Aloysius (later became Good Counsel School, then Riverside-Good Counsel School)
1957  Mary, Queen of Heaven School, Erlanger, KY
1967  St. Joseph School, Covington, became Bishop Howard Non-Graded School
1977  Villa Madonna Elementary School became coeducational
1985  Villa Madonna High School became coeducational

HOSPITALS

1948  St. Joseph Hospital, Florence, CO
1948  Mount Mary Hospital, Hazard, KY
1950  Santa Fe Hospital, La Junta, CO
1959  Estill County Hospital, Irvine, KY (later named Marcum Wallace Hospital)
The Sisters Today

Sr. Agnes Ruschmann  Sr. Aileen Bankemper  Sr. Andrea Collopy


Sr. Annita Schirmer  Sr. Barbara Woeste  Sr. Betty Cahill
The Sisters Today

Sr. Carla Cook
Sr. Carmella Azzolina
Sr. Cathy Bauer
Sr. Cecelia Daigle
Sr. Charles Wolking
Sr. Christa Kreinbrink
Sr. Clarita Anneken
Sr. Colleen Winston
Sr. David Ruschmann
Sr. Deborah Harmeling
The Sisters Today

Sr. Denise Gough  Sr. Dolores Finke  Sr. Dominic Sullivan

Sr. Dorothy Schuette  Sr. Emmanuel Pieper  Sr. Estelle Schulte  Sr. Esther O’Hara

Sr. Geraldine Gajniak  Sr. Helen Hergott  Sr. Henrietta Seiler
The Sisters Today

Sr. Immaculata Campbell  Sr. Immaculata Haar  Sr. Jean Scott

Sr. Jeanette Frisch  Sr. Joan Fraenzle  Sr. Joan Gripshover  Sr. Joann Dziolek

Sr. Joseph Ruschmann  Sr. Juanita Anneken  Sr. Juanita Federico

Died February 17, 2009
The Sisters Today

Sr. Margaret Mary Dressman  Sr. Margaret Mary Gough  Sr. Mariana Kirk  Sr. Marilyn Thiel

Sr. Justina Franxman  Sr. Kathleen Ryan  Sr. Kimberly Porter

Sr. Martha Feder  Sr. Martha Walther  Sr. Martina Arnold

Celebrating 150 Years
The Sisters Today

Sr. Mary Rabe
Sr. Mary Tewes
Sr. Mary Carol Hellmann
Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup
Sr. Mary Jane Williams
Sr. Mary Peter Youtsey
Sr. Monica Fessler
Sr. Nancy Kordenbrock
Sr. Philomena Rarreick
Sr. Regis Egger
The Sisters Today

Sr. Rita Bilz        Sr. Rita Brink        Sr. Rose Rauen        Sr. Rosemary McCormack
Sr. Ruth Yost        Sr. Samuel Azzolina        Sr. Sharon Portwood
Sr. Stella Gough        Sr. Teresa Wolking        Sr. Victoria Eisenman        Sr. Xavier Anneken
House of Blessing Donors

**Project Goal: $100,000; Raised as of 2/12/09: $100,208.**

Any additional funds received will be given to HONK to use for house furnishings and other necessities.

### $5,000–$20,000

Anonymous
Bank of Kentucky
Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery
Lynne & Joe Horning

### $1,000–$4,999

John & Carole Binzer
Benedictine Sisters of Our Lady of Grace Monastery
Benedictine Sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery
Mr. & Mrs. William Fotsch
Franciscan Services Corporation
Kathleen & Eileen Gough
Jack Hanson
Rev. Robert J. Henderson
Mary & Pete Sartori
Richard A. & Yvonne Schladen
Joseph P. Shadle
Helen A. Sievers
Sisters of Divine Providence
Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina
Sisters of Notre Dame of Covington, Kentucky
Catherine Northcutt Stratman Charitable Foundation

### $500–$999

Anonymous
Ms. Martha Arlinghaus
Lisa & Robert Collins
Mr. Thomas R. Dietz
Rev. Wilfred Fraenzle
Mary Joan Goessling
Mr. & Mrs. Guy Linnemann
Heather & Wilf O’Brien
St. Meinrad Archabbey
Patricia Scott
Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, Ohio
Sisters of the Congregation of the Precious Blood
Rev. John A. Seiler
Mrs. Paul Stegman
Mr. & Mrs. George Walther

### $200–$499

Anonymous
NORB & Pauline Baumann

### Benedictine Sisters of Mt. St. Scholastica

- Ann Beck
- Gerald Benzinger
- Margaret Bimel
- Mary M. Dusing
- Steve & Mary Ellen Elsbernd
- Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Fessler
- Joyce and Dennis Giuffre
- Mr. & Mrs. Carl Gripshover
- Doug & Elyse Lewin
- Mr. Robert A. Manning
- Anne M. Maxfield
- Mrs. Nancy Maxfield
- Mr. Michael McGrath
- Joe Merkle
- Henry Meyers
- Thomas & Margaret Munninghoff
- Mr. William B. Rice
- Nancy C. & G. William Ruth
- Rev. Msgr. Thomas Sacksteder
- Charles & Julie Geisen Schepner
- Jim & Mary Schmidt
- Rev. Terry Schneider
- Cathie Stratman
- Most Rev. Arthur N. Tafoya
- Melba Talbot
- Adelaide & Joseph Wessling
- Rev. Jack Wessling
- Geraldine & Anthony Zembrod

### $1–$199

- Mr. & Mrs. David Agee
- Rev. Ray Aichele
- Rose Marie Allen
- Harry Anderson
- Anonymous
- Mr. Joseph Balasa, Jr.
- John & Charlene Bankemper
- Miss Mildred Barhorst
- Mr. & Mrs. Walter Barhorst
- Mary Ann Barnes
- Mel & Evelyn Barth
- Mr. Raymond J. Bechtold
- Mr. & Mrs. H. Clay Beekley
- Bev Sanders Behne
- Elaine Boering Berberich
- Mary E. Berger
- Richard Berling
- J. R. & J. L. Berning
- Joe & Jeanne Berns

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**Groundbreaking Ceremony**

(R to L: Sr. Margaret Mary Gough, chairperson of St. Walburg Monastery Sesquicentennial Committee; Mr. Butch Callery, then Mayor of Covington; Sr. Henrietta Seiler, member of St. Walburg Monastery; Bennie Doggett, President of the Eastside Neighborhood Association; Sr. Rita Brink, ACUE Executive Director; Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup, Prioress of St. Walburg Monastery; and Barbara Biehl, President of HONK Board of Directors.)

**Speakers**

(L to R: Rev. Michael Posey of the AMC Methodist Church; Mr. Aaron Wolfe-Bertling, Covington Housing Development Director; Ms. Bennie Doggett; Mr. Butch Callery; Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup; and Barbara Biehl.)
House of Blessing Donors continued

Marilyn & Teresa Bertke
Sr. Marlene Bertke, OSB
Mary Bertolini
Barbara & Richard Blank
Lorraine Blum
Jack & Gerry Boberg
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bolte
Sylvester & Evelyn Bolte
Charles & Joan Breetz
Robert C. Brink
Rev. Louis B. Brinker
Rev. Paul J. Brinker
Mrs. Norma Broering
Mary Ann Brucato
Ann Buerger
Charles & Christi Butler
Ruth L. Cahill
Helen Carroll
Chris & Nancy Cassidy
Elaine Cetruolo
Clara A. Chimel
Anne H. Clarke
Jim & Ruth Cleves
Mr. & Mrs. R. Clinton
Mr. & Mrs. James Cole
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Connair
Dominick & Milly Cordelli
Carl R. Creech, Jr.
Mary Louise Cross
Rosalie Cwik
Carol Darpel
Cindy Stone DeAngelis
Linda & Michael DeFrank
Kevin Delaney
Libby Dermody
Ed Di Roco
June Dineen
Dominican Sisters of Hope
Sr. Kathy Donohue, OP
Thomas & Loraine Dooley
Mary Sue Dressman
Mr. & Mrs. James Dressman, III
Martin & Mary Due
John Dugan
Deacon Steve Durkee
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Dusing
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Dysas
Jerry & Stella Edwards
Patricia A. Eilers
Scott & Rosie Eilers
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Eisenman
Emmanua Initiatives
Nancy L. Eyerman
Dr. & Mrs. Daniel Fagel
Janet Fedders
Mary Ann & Paul Fedders
Donna Feder
Joseph & Peggy Flannery
Judy & Melinda Flesch
Gerard Foltz
Ed Franchi
Julia B. Francisco
Ms. Emily A. Franxman
Marilyn Franxman
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Franxman
Mrs. Alma Fricker
Trish Fries
Mrs. Barb Frouks
Norma Fugazzi
John R. Funke, Jr.
Katie Funke & Ryan Blevins
Mary Ellen Funke
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St. Benedict statue in front hall of the monastery

The community at prayer.

Enjoying cake and ice cream!
L to R: Srs. Agnes Ruschmann, Regis Egger, Ruth Yost, Margaret Mary Dressman and Clarita Anneken.

Srs. Cathy Bauer and Christa Kreinbrink cleaning up the aftermath of Hurricane Ike.

Sr. Joseph Ruschmann with a kitten.
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SAVE THE DATE

Join us in our public celebration of praise and thanksgiving for the blessings God has bestowed upon The Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery during the past 150 years.

Eucharistic Liturgy  
Sunday, June 7, 2009 · 3:00 p.m.

The Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption  
Covington, Kentucky

Followed by a reception at  
Villa Madonna Academy Sports Center  
Villa Hills, Kentucky