



# Leaven

St. Walburg Monastery  
Covington, Kentucky

**BENEDICTINE  
SISTERS**

[www.stwalburg.org](http://www.stwalburg.org)

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Volume 26  
Number 1

## Changes, Celebrations and New Life at St. Walburg Monastery

The cycle of life at St. Walburg Monastery continues to be joyful. In February we welcomed two Benedictine Sisters from Namibia to life in Kentucky. *Below right: Sr.*

*Justina Ndahafa Iita shows Sr.*

*Raymond Fessler how to dance*

*Namibian-style.* In June we celebrated 45 years of the city of Villa Hills by climbing in a truck and being part of the parade throughout the streets of Villa



*Hills. Above: Sr. Cathy Bauer decorates the truck for the parade.*

We transferred the ministry of healthcare for the elderly at Madonna Manor to the sponsorship of the Franciscan Sisters of Sylvania, Ohio, mourning the end of our ministry there and celebrating the beginning of a new life for Madonna Manor.

We supported the request of the Benedictine Associates to change their name to Oblates, the term used more universally for laity committed to living the monastic life in their own circumstances. We rejoiced to celebrate their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and gave thanks for the blessings they have brought to us.

In March we sat in a candlelight vigil with about sixty people marking the fourth anniversary of the Iraq war. *See picture at left.*



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**Editors:** *Sisters Deborah Harmeling, Christa Kreinbrink, Martha Walther*

Our last German-born sister, **Sr. Katherine Probst**, died at the end of May, marking the end of an era. The weather has not been kind to our older trees, and the Canada geese seem to be taking over the property which is an unofficial refuge for wild turkeys, red-tailed hawks, owls, deer, ducks, coyotes, squirrels, rabbits and foxes. New life in all its surprising and unexpected forms continues to remind us of God's graces and blessings.



## The Chronicles

By Sr. Andrea Collopy

**January 26**—The community learned today of the sudden death of **Tom O'Halloran**, an active and faithful Benedictine Oblate. Sympathy and prayers are with his wife, Liz, also an Oblate, in her loss.

**January 26-28**—**Sisters Cathy Bauer and Dorothy Schuette** traveled to Washington, D.C., to participate in the rally opposing sending more troops to Iraq. In mid-February **Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup** received a letter and a picture. The picture showed Sr. Dorothy carrying the banner, "Benedictines for Peace, Covington, Ky." See picture on p. 8. The gentleman who sent it said he was reminded of his school days with the Benedictine Sisters of Cullman, a great time in his life.

**Last of January and early February**—Spring-like weather finally ended with the arrival of a more traditional winter.

Temperature in the teens and single digits registered with some lasting snow. Will the lakes freeze?

**February 6**—A steady snow began around 12:30 pm (forecasts were correct) and continued until 8 pm, leaving close to six inches. Road conditions made driving hazardous; sighs of relief were heard when each sister returned home safely. No serious delay at the airport so Sr. Mary Catherine arrived from San Francisco nearly on time. School was cancelled the next day. Although heavy with snow the lakes did freeze!

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## The Prioress Writes

June 18, 2007

I write this letter very conscious that the time for our sisters from Namibia to return to their own Benedictine community is getting very close. They arrived in February, just in time for the most destructive ice storm in years. Both sisters thought they would never see green trees or grass again. They stayed long enough to experience the thermometer push toward a very muggy 96°. A Namibian summer easily reaches 100°, but without the oppressive humidity of the Ohio River valley.

**Srs. Mary Immaculate Iiping** and **Justina Ndahafa Iita** kept very busy with their studies: accounting, psalms, Rule of Benedict, English and American idioms. Both sisters spoke good English when they arrived, but they leave with the experience of public speaking and the ability to read science fiction and novels. They mastered the principles of accounting/bookkeeping, Excel and Quick Books. Like young persons in their thirties, they are quick to learn on the computer that so many of you helped us purchase for their community in Namibia.

As is our tradition, the community pulled out all stops on hospitality. Sr. Justina is "grateful to the sisters who always encouraged me." She helped herself get over homesickness by learning to play Rummikub and Thirty-One with the sisters in the infirmary. Sr. Mary Immaculate says, "I came to the United States with empty hands. I am going home with many skills. I am going to share with my community through the community of St. Walburg. What they did for me they do on behalf of my congregation now and for the future." The sharing and learning was mutual and we will miss their faithful, open and gracious presence in our midst. To Mother Irmgard and the Benedictine sisters of Otshikuku, we say, "Nda pandula for trusting your sisters to our care."



**Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup,  
Prioress**

*Sr. Mary Catherine*

The Benedictine Sisters are deeply grateful for the support provided by our benefactors. You are remembered whenever the community gathers for prayer. For purposes of donations, bequests, and annuities, our legal title is **St. Walburg Monastery of Benedictine Sisters of Covington, Kentucky, Inc.**

## Seasons of Global Exchange

Namibia is a country in sub-equatorial Africa which became independent in 1990. It had been a German colony, and then, after World War II, a protectorate of South



Africa. The new country took its name from its great desert, the Namib.

We have our own connections with Namibia. At the request of AIM (the Alliance of International Monasticism), **Srs. Mary Catherine Wenstrup** and **Martha Walther** visited Namibia in 2000 to work with the Benedictine Sisters of Otshikuku in community

administration and the English language. In 2002 Sr. Mary Catherine returned to conduct the election of prioress. Last summer the prioress of the Otshikuku Benedictines, **Mother Irmgarde Poroto**, stayed with our community for a month while in the U.S. for the chapter meeting of the Federation of St. Scholastica.

On February 9, 2007, two Benedictine Sisters from Namibia arrived in Kentucky for a six-month stay at St. Walburg Monastery.

**Sr. Justina Ndahafa Iita** and **Sr. Mary Immaculate Ipinge** have come to study and share in the life of our Benedictine community. These young sisters are a delight. Mother Irmgarde sent them to learn more about financial management and to increase their facility in English. They have regular classes in accounting with **Sr. Rose Rauen**, the psalms with **Sr. Justina Franxman** and English as a second language through Gateway Community College. The picture above, left to right is of: Sr. Mary Immaculate, Sr. Justina F. and Sr. Justina N.

As a teenager living in a small town, Sr. Mary Immaculate read about the Benedictines of Otshikuku in a Catholic newspaper. She was intrigued to learn of the charism and the work of the sisters in that community. After she entered the community and made her profession, she taught kindergarten for three years. Since 2001 she has been working on the community's formation team. Since the people in Namibia live in small villages and towns where there often is no priest available for Mass, and no Catholic instruction, the Sisters



*The Chronicles continued*

**February 9**—Feast of St. Scholastica celebration began with Evening Prayer, dinner and a welcome to eagerly awaited visitors. **Sisters Justina Ndahafa Iita** and **Mary Immaculate Ipinge** (see article on p. 3-4) completed their twenty-hour flight from Namibia to begin their six-month stay with us. For them the snow-covered ground was a brand new experience.

**February 10**—The Villa Madonna Academy fundraiser, Villa-Rama, held this evening at Receptions in Erlanger, was a great success—the largest attendance ever.

**February 13-14**—Severe weather again! Ice and snow cancelled school for two days and wrecked havoc on the monastery trees. Piles of large branches littered the grounds. Some trees were totally stripped on one side as upper branches fell and pulled lower ones to the ground. Several weeks' work by the maintenance crew and a brand new "chipper" left a mountain of potential mulch up behind the cemetery. In a few years this mulch will be used around the monastery grounds.

**February 15**—Today the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery transferred sponsorship of Madonna Manor, Inc. to Franciscan Services Corporation sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Sylvania, Ohio. *See article on p. 7.* Years of prayer and discussion culminated in this important day. May God continue to bless the mission of Madonna Manor.

**February 17**—**Sisters Cathy Bauer** and **Kimberly Porter** left for St. Scholastica Monastery in Atchison, Kansas, to attend a

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workshop for Benedictine Sisters fifty-five years and younger. Both found the experience encouraging and energizing.

**February 19**—Ice and snow continue to beautify and plague the area. Some wonderful photographs manifest God's creation.

**March 1**—With lightning and claps of thunder, March arrives like a lion. The next day brought strong winds. Branches stuck up in the trees fell to the ground. More clean up. But flowers are peeping through.

**March 8**—The 10<sup>th</sup> annual corporate spelling bee promoting LINK (Literacy in Northern Kentucky) was held today. Last year's match was featured on the *Today* show and made national and international news as the "librarians vs. the nuns" caught the headlines. This year twenty-one teams competed. A local family led by an "alien" from California won the prize—but our team did well. At the beginning of the 11<sup>th</sup> round, four teams remained; at the end three had fallen. A great performance!

**March 10**—A day of reflection, "Living the Call: the Journey to Love" based on Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical "God is Love" was presented by **Dr. Gillian Ahlgren**, a theology professor from Xavier University. A responding panel—**Bill and Gina Ruehl, Ed Franchi and Sr. Cathy Bauer**—shared how their particular vocations reflect this call to love. *See pictures on p. 8.*

**March 15**—In years past mallard ducks have counted on the patio as a nesting area. With the magnolia and holly trees, bushes and plants, it was a safe and quiet place to produce a family of ducklings. The trees are now gone and the space is rather open but

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**Seasons of Global Exchange** *continued from previous page*

have workshops for young women who wish to become Benedictines but know little about the faith. Sr. Mary Immaculate is also involved in these "pre-formation" activities. In 2005 she attended an 11-month leadership course at the seminary in Zambia, a neighboring country.

Sr. Justina suffered an injury to her leg at age two. She spent eight years in a hospital learning to deal with her handicap and then went to live in a hostel for the handicapped while she attended school. There were Benedictines from Otshikuku on the staff at the hostel. As a fifteen-year-old, Sr. Justina was impressed with the dedication of these sisters. She went to chapel with them and saw that they were women of God. She attended a Day of Recollection with them and was touched by the experience. Sr. Justina's parents were Lutheran,

and in her village there were no Catholics. It took several years before her father was willing for her to become a Catholic and then a Benedictine Sister.

We are enjoying our two guests. One evening they asked us to participate in a sung recitation of their Namibian community's history (above). They also showed us how to drum (Left: Sr. Mary Immaculate teaching **Sr. Marilyn Thiel**) and demonstrated their ability to sing spontaneously in parts with one another.

Sr. Justina N. and Sr. Mary Immaculate have a British accent to their English. Both of them grew up speaking their native tribal language as well as Afrikaans, the language of the German colonies in Africa. However, since English was declared the official language of

Namibia when the new country got its independence in 1990, they also have learned English. They are interested in building their English vocabulary during their stay with us.

We hope that we are enriching the lives of Sr. Justina N. and Sr. Mary Immaculate as much as they are enriching ours. **Sr. Mariana Kirk**



## Sr. Katherine Probst

**Born February 3, 1912, Ingolstadt, Germany**

**Entered St. Walburg Monastery, Covington, Kentucky, September 8, 1930**

**Received habit, August 31, 1931.**

**First Profession September 1, 1932**

**Died May 29, 2007**

Sr. Katherine was born in Ingolstadt, Germany on February 3, 1912 to Jacob and Katherine Schelchchorn Probst. Katherine was the second youngest of eight children. She came to America in January, 1929 from Eichstatt, intending to go to Ridgely, Maryland. On her arrival she was told that arrangements had changed and she was to go to St. Walburg Monastery in Covington, Kentucky. Katherine became a postulant at SWM on September 8, 1930. From January 1929 until that September day, she was a boarder at Villa Madonna Academy. There is a picture of her and her classmates in Villa uniforms in a VMA yearbook.

Katherine received the habit and a new name, Mechtilde on August 31, 1931 and made her first monastic profession on September 1, 1932 and perpetual profession on September 1, 1935. She became a United States citizen on April 20, 1938 and celebrated her silver jubilee on July 23, 1957. When community members were given the option to return to their baptismal names, Sr. Mechtilde became Sr. Katherine. She celebrated golden and diamond jubilees on July 10, 1982 and May 23, 1992. From 1938 until 1967.

Sr. Katherine taught in the following schools staffed by the Benedictine Sisters: St. Henry, Holy Cross, Blessed Sacrament, St. Benedict, St. Joseph, Crescent Springs, and St. Paul. After 1967 she served in various capacities at St. Walburg Monastery and Villa Madonna Academy.

She was able to visit her native Germany twice in her later years: a three month visit in April, 1987 and a shorter stay in May, 1992.

In 1982 a severe and long lasting case of shingles brought Sr. Katherine to the monastery infirmary where she resided until her death. A person with a mind of her own, Sr. Katherine wasn't given to changing it. Humorous stories abound among those who worked with her in her last years in the infirmary—her constant calls for more covers—even with her bed piled high and the room a tropical temperature, her loud call for “Coke” in the middle of the night, her preference for warm beer and many other stories. Recently her call for wine brought cranberry juice and she preferred it from then on. Her bright blue eyes could sparkle with wit or glare with displeasure.

At the age of 95 in the 75th year of monastic profession, Sr. Katherine quietly and peacefully went to her eternal reward. Her death on May 29, 2007 marked the end of an era at St. Walburg Monastery. Sr. Katherine was the last German born sister in a community founded and built up by German born sisters.



### *The Chronicles continued*

mother duck persevered, made a nest and laid four eggs. But the eggs lay there and the mother did not return. Feathers were found by the lake. Evidently a predator found a victim.

**March 17**—About sixty persons participated in a candlelight vigil marking the fourth anniversary of the Iraq invasion. On very short notice, **Sr. Mariana Kirk** organized the gathering which met in the monastery lower level. The occasion included prayer, silence and personal testimony. *See picture on p. 1.*

**March 21**—On this Feast of St. Benedict, the community and forty oblates observed the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Associate/Oblate organization.. Each oblate wore a badge indicating the year association with St. Walburg Monastery began. *See article on p. 6.* It was a great occasion and **Sr. Justina N.** told the group that her country, Namibia, celebrates Independence Day on March 21 when, in 1990, it became the youngest democracy in Africa.

**April 5-8**—Easter Triduum! Always a time of prayer, worship and solemn peaceful reflection. **Fr. Joseph Brink**, Sr. Rita's brother, was our presider on Thursday, Friday and Saturday as **Fr. John Cahill's** commitment on these days is to his parish, Cristo Rey. We are most grateful for Fr. Brink's service. Fr. Cahill returned for Eucharist on Easter Sunday.

**April 21**—A big surprise greeted most of us. A mother duck with eleven little puffs of feathers appeared near the back porch. Moving from a nest well hidden

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*The Chronicles continued*

under a bush and encouraged by the mother, the little parade moved to the high wall nearby. Each tumbled off into the hands of **Amber Tewes**, a food service employee.

Recognizing the high mortality rate for small creatures on our lakes, Amber's dad gave them hospitality in the barn on his turkey farm. The latest news has a visitor welcoming them to a home on her lake where less danger from predators lurks.

**April 27**—Villa Madonna

Academy's Latin class, having heard our Namibian sisters speak of their country and its needs, sponsored a musical revue for the benefit of a mission in Namibia.

**April 28**—**Derek Furnish**, VMA Spanish teacher, discovered that his grandmother's sister, **Mary Catherine Banks**, attended VMA from 1934 until 1938. She was a postulant for a short time in 1938. Today, accompanied by his mother and a daughter and son of Mary Catherine, Derek and guest had a pleasant conversation with **Sisters Teresa Wolking and Clarita Anneken**, Mary Catherine's classmates at Villa. They were delighted to visit the Guest House where she lived during her school days.

**April 27-30**—**Sisters Stella Marie Gough and Aileen Bankemper** attended the American Benedictine Formation Conference held this year at Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove, Indiana.

**May 5**—After today's corporation meeting and Evening Prayer came the excitement of the one hundred-thirty-third running of the Kentucky Derby. A party and trying to pick a

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## A New Name for a 20 Year Old Program

In the fall of 1985, the St. Walburg community began discussions about establishing an Associate Program for lay men and women who wished to be connected with the monastic life and tradition and especially that of St. Walburg Monastery. At that time the community chose the name Associate for the program because locally the term Oblate was used mostly for people associated with the St. Meinrad program or programs established by monasteries of men.



Almost twenty years later in January 2008, the members of St. Walburg Monastery's Associate Program requested a name change to Oblates. Over the years the preferred term for laity associated with Benedictine communities has become oblates. The first World Congress of Benedictine Oblates, held in Rome in 2005, gave more emphasis to the term oblate and now in the United States there are two distinct national organizations—one for associate directors and one for oblate directors. The community agreed to the name change and the St. Walburg

Monastery Associate Program became the St. Walburg Monastery Oblate Program in time to celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary on March 21, 2007.

At the end of Eucharist on March 21, **Gail Michalak** (above left), a member of the Oblate steering committee, thanked the community for “the signs of Benedictine life we strive for—steadfast peace, stability, gentleness and tranquility.” Gail also presented Sr. Mary Tewes, the third Oblate Director with a large envelope, full of notes of gratitude and thanksgiving.

Forty oblates joined the community for dinner and brought a great selection of wines and desserts. A large cake decorated with the medal of St. Benedict in colored icing was a big hit. And, of course, in keeping with tradition, everyone joined in doing the dishes afterward. *See picture above of Sr. Henrietta Seiler and Oblate Jim Lockhart.*



Sr. Mary and the steering committee are planning a 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary Benedictine Oblate book with information about the history of the program and pictures of past and present oblates. For more information about the St. Walburg Monastery Oblate Program, see the website at [www.stwalburg.org](http://www.stwalburg.org) or call Sr. Mary Tewes at 513-347-2228 (day) or 859-331-6324 (evening).

## Transfer of Sponsorship of Madonna Manor

The Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery transferred the sponsorship of Madonna Manor, Inc. to the Franciscan Service Corporation, a healthcare system sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Sylvania, Ohio, on February 14, 2007, one of the coldest, snowiest days of the year.

In a press release Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup said, “Madonna Manor has been an important ministry for over forty years. We established the Manor because Sister Benedict Bunning, prioress in 1964, had the vision and foresight to see that Catholic healthcare for the elderly would be a vital service in the future.”

“When the community, together with the Madonna Manor board, looked to the future of Madonna Manor, we sought a sponsor who would preserve Madonna Manor’s legacy, name and the tradition of compassionate care. We found a good fit in the Franciscan Services Corporation.”

On a sunny spring day, May 21, 2007, employees and residents of Madonna Manor, the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery, the Congregational Leadership Team of the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, Ohio, the new Madonna Manor Board of Trustees and friends and guests gathered to mark the transfer of Madonna Manor.

**Sr. Nancy Surma, OSF**, Vice President for Mission Integration of Franciscan Services Corporation and **Sr. Mary Catherine** (above) gave an overview of the history of Madonna Manor; **Sr. Madeleva Krause**, of the Sisters of St. Francis talked about the history of the Sylvania Franciscans, and **Sr. Carolyn Gier, OSF**, the Franciscan representative to the Manor Board told the story of the Benedictines giving a church and a house to St. Francis as he was starting the order.

**Sr. Diana Lynn Eckel, OSF**, then presented a gift (a San Damiano cross) to Sr. Mary Catherine and presented the Franciscan mission statement to Sue McConn, Executive Director of Madonna Manor. Bishop Foys gave the closing benediction after which Sr. Nancy thanked everyone who made the occasion possible. A reception followed.

There were certainly many mixed emotions in the recreation center that afternoon. The ceremony was at the same time dignified and homey. For all involved, the residents and employees of Manor, the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery and the Franciscan Sisters of Sylvania, Ohio, the passage from Jeremiah 29:11 is appropriate, “For surely I know the plans I have for you, says God, plans for your welfare...to give you a future with hope.”



**Sr. Deborah Harmeling**

### *The Chronicles continued*

winner comes naturally to us. We don’t know too much about horses so names and circumstances determine our choices. Pike Street Clinic and Welcome House workers and volunteers chose Street Sense. A great time was had by all even though the winner was unexpected.

**May 21**—The official ceremony celebrating the transfer of Madonna Manor to the Franciscan Sisters of Sylvania, Ohio, occurred this afternoon. A large group of Manor residents and employees, Benedictine and Franciscan sisters and many friends of Madonna Manor were present to mark the occasion.

**May 24**—A group of sisters, most of whom had worked in the area of Estill County, traveled to Irvine, Kentucky, to be present at the dinner honoring **Sister David Ruschmann** for her service to the area. *See picture on p. 9.* She and three others became the newest members of the Estill County Hall of Honor, a recognition given annually by the Board of Estill Development Alliance for contributions to the county. Sr. David has served in various capacities—as a nurse anesthetist, a major organizer of the monthly basement sales at St. Elizabeth Church in Ravenna. She has worked with Habitat for Humanity and was a board member of Community Housing, Inc., which offers affordable housing opportunities in areas of Appalachia.

**May 29**—The 2007 recipients of grants from the SWM Social

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*The Chronicles continued*

Needs Fund joined the community for Evening Prayer and dinner. Later the representatives of these twelve organizations gathered to receive the checks and to explain to the assembled group their organization and the project for which the grant monies will be used. Each year the community is inspired by these narratives and continues in gratitude to **Margaret Hay Edwards** whose gift to the community made this possible.

**End of May**—Pentecost ended Easter Season 2007. At the end of Evening Prayer, Sr. Estelle extinguished the paschal candle, now quite a bit shorter. **Sr. Katherine Probst**'s physical condition had begun to deteriorate and prayers continued at her beside. Memorial Day, a restful holiday here, brought a picnic supper for the community with individuals contributing their culinary specialty. During these days Sr. Katherine continued in the prayers and concern of all. Death came peacefully on Tuesday morning May 29. Viigil was celebrated on May 30, and the Mass of Christian Burial on May 31 ended the month of May.

**June 6**--**Sr. Sharon Portwood** left today for Rome to share in the Benedictine Experience, a month-long seminar and experience in all things Benedictine.

**June 8-10**—A weekend for anniversary festivities. On June 8 **Sisters Justina Franxman** and **Aileen Bankemper** left for Martin, Kentucky to help the Benedictines there celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of The Dwelling Place Monastery. On

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## Pictures of our life together

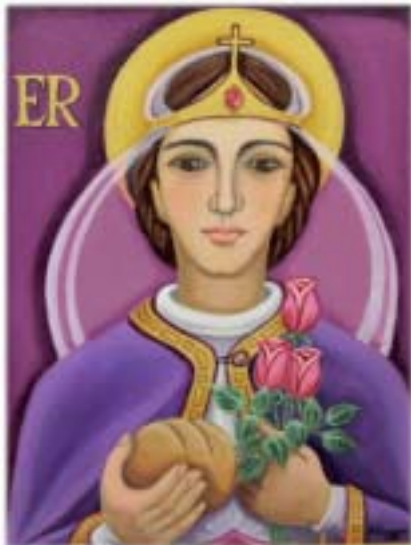
In the spring **Sr. Immaculata Campbell** (right) fulfilled her life-long wish to ride a motorcycle, thanks to **Maureen Smain**, the monastery food service director. Sr. Immaculata is the biker babe with the helmet.



On March 10 the Center of Spirituality offered a Day of Reflection on Benedict XVI's encyclical *God is Love*. **Dr. Gillian Ahlgren** (below with Sr. Deborah) was the main speaker. **Sr. Cathy** and VMA President **Ed Franchi** (left) spoke about the role of love in their lives as a monastic woman and a single man.

**Sr. Dorothy Schuette** (below) carries a peace banner at the February peace rally in Washington, D.C.





## Pictures of our life together



**Sr. David Ruschmann** (above right) became a member of the Estill County Hall of Fame. *See Chronicles, p. 7 for story.* In June **Srs. David, Xavier Anneken, Annita Schmirer and Andrew Hellman** (left: left to right) attended the 75th anniversary of St. Elizabeth Parish in Ravenna, Kentucky. Sr. Emmanuel's oil painting of St. Elizabeth of Hungary is pictured above left.



**Sr. Effie Whitten** (right) celebrated her 94th Easter this spring.

Yes, it looks like a stock picture, but the turkey below is our very own wild turkey striking a pose on the hillside.



### *The Chronicles continued*

June 9 a decorated truck (see picture on p. 1) filled with Benedictine Sisters participated in the Villa Hills parade marking forty-five years as a city. On June 10 **Sisters Xavier Anneken, David Ruschmann, Annita Schirmer, Emmanuel Pieper and Andrew Hellmann** attended Eucharist and dinner at St. Elizabeth Church in Ravenna, Kentucky, celebrating seventy-five years as a parish. All except Sr. Emmanuel served in the hospital in Estill County. Sr. Emmanuel created a lovely oil painting of St. Elizabeth of Hungary, patron of the parish. *Picture on this page.*

**June 14**--This evening and for four more Thursdays, the community will be learning more about mysticism and **Clare of Assisi, Gertrude the Great, Catherine of Siena and Teresa of Avila.** **Sr. Deborah Harmeling** is the presenter.

**June 13**--With Eucharist and a festive dinner the community honored two long-time employees who are retiring--**Joyce Ailstock** who has served in the monastery kitchen for 38 years and **Dorothy Spreter** who has served as a nurse assistant in the infirmary for 18 years. **Nancy Haskamp**, a nurse in the infirmary was honored for long service of 30 years which we hope will continue far into the future.

**June 23**--The Benedictine Oblates hosted their annual ice cream social, an event always anticipated by their St. Walburg Monastery sisters. Bingo, prizes, jokes by the caller, **Jim Lockhart**, and a variety of summer cooler specialties made for a pleasant afternoon.

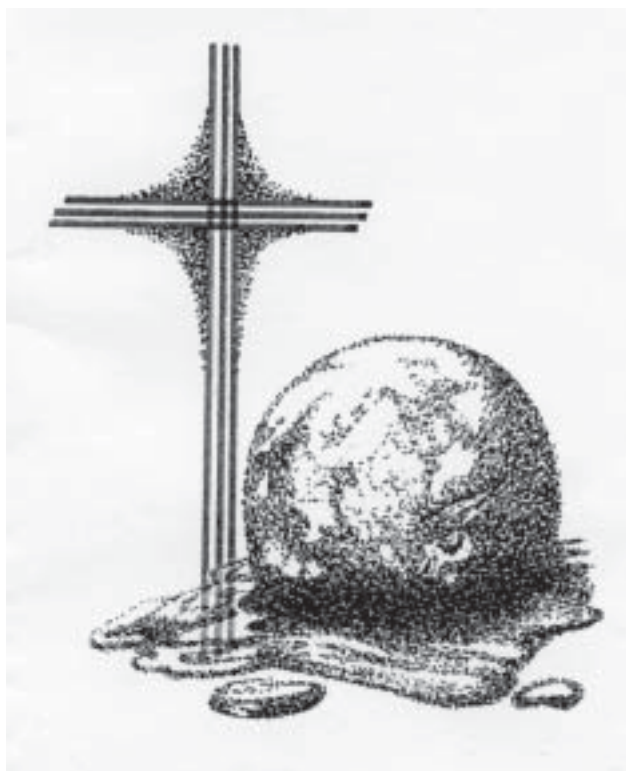
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## **Climate Change: Challenge to Our Spirituality**

Join us for a day of insight and reflection  
on the challenge of climate change to our spiritual life  
and practice.

**Sr. Paula Gonzalez, SC, PhD**

**Saturday, October 27, 2007  
9:30-3:00**

**Cost: \$25.00 (includes lunch)**

**To register or for additional information contact:**

**Sr. Justina Franxman, OSB**

859-331-6324

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