

THE ROSARY PILGRIM

MONASTERY OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

☪ *Dominican Nuns of Summit, New Jersey* ☪

Autumn 2017



THE NUNS OF THE ORDER OF PREACHERS

came into being when our holy Father Dominic gathered women converts to the Catholic faith in the monastery of Blessed Mary of Prouille. These women, free for God alone, he associated with his “holy preaching” by their prayer and penance. Our holy Father drew up a rule to be followed and constantly showed a father’s love and care for these nuns and for others established later in the same way of life. In fact, “they had no other master to instruct them about the Order.” Finally, he entrusted them as part of the same Order to the fraternal concern of his sons.

-Fundamental Constitutions of the Nuns of the Order of Preachers

First Profession of Sister Maria Johanna, OP



On August, 8th, the Solemnity of Our Holy Father, Saint Dominic, Sister Maria Johanna of Our Lady of Grace, OP, made her First Profession for three years in the hands of our sub-prioress, Sister Denise Marie, OP, as Sister Mary Martin was not able to be present. Sister's parents, and all but one of her nine brothers and sisters, were able to travel down from Montreal, Canada, to witness Sister Maria Johanna's profession.

Father David Adiletta, OP, was the principal celebrant of the Mass. Fr. Paul Anyidoho (pastor of Sister's home parish), Fr. Ciaran Fergus, OP, Msgr. Donald Guenther (one of our confessors) were concelebrants with newly-ordained Fr. Jeff Hanley and Fr. Patrick Seo, both graduates of Thomas Aquinas College (Sister's alma mater). Sister Maria Johanna's brother, Philip, and Nathan Roberts served the Mass.

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After Mass, Sister's family and friends gathered in Saint Dominic's hall for a celebratory lunch.



Meet Our New Postulant!

On June 23, 2017, Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Marie Langford entered our monastery as a postulant. Sister Marie is a native of Fort Wayne, Indiana. She is the daughter of Christopher and Ellen Langford and the second oldest of six children. This May Sister Marie graduated from Indiana University-Perdue University Fort Wayne, with a degree in electrical engineering, following in the footsteps of her parents and older brother who are also engineers.

Sister Marie is also a talented pianist, and is applying her keyboard skills to learning the organ. Sister has many hobbies as well which she is already using in the monastery.

Please pray for Sister Marie as she takes her first steps in Dominican monastic life, and for all our novitiate sisters and candidates. We are grateful to God for the many women He is sending to our way of life.

Building Project Progress Report



Artist rendering of the back view (cloister side) of the new wing

By the time you receive this newsletter, we expect our building project to be in the final stage of the approval process by the city of Summit. Our building plans received high praise, most notably from the New Jersey Historical Commission. The city fire department required a few modifications such as an even wider driveway to accommodate fire trucks. Contingent on receiving approval is the installation of a sprinkler system throughout our present monastery building. This represents an added expense that was not in our original building budget.

We are anxious to begin before the winter so that work can be done in the interior during the winter months.

We are also required to provide a landscaping plan for the new wing. We are praying and trusting that God will provide us with the people who can help us carry it out! **Are you a professional landscaper or a paving contractor that would like to assist with this? Please call Sister Judith Miryam at 908.723.6285.**

This summer we received a \$15,000 grant from SOAR (Support our Aging Religious) to be used toward the ADA exterior ramp that will be the entrance to the new wing and the interior ramp that will provide access from the new wing to the chapel. We are so grateful for their generous assistance!



Sr. Patrica Codey, SC, board member of SOAR presents Sr. Denise Marie, Sr. Mary Martin and Sr. Judith Miryam with the grant check.

While we have almost reached our goal of \$4 million, the price increases since we started our capital campaign three years ago as well as the added expense of upgrading our monastery building and the required landscaping means that we still need your help! While large gifts would help us reach our goal more quickly we are truly grateful for any gift. May God reward you!



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What to Expect at the Monastery during Construction!

*A*s we get closer to the beginning of construction our friends are asking us what to expect. The following may answer some of your questions:

- During construction, the chapel will be open as usual but the reception office and gift shop will move to temporary quarters in the foyer of St. Dominic's Hall (in our lower level). The entrance door is right across from our parking area on the Morris Avenue side of our drive.
- The gift shop will actually be bigger in its temporary quarters. We encourage you to come and browse our expanded selection, especially for your Christmas shopping!
- The Springfield Avenue entrance will be closed, so the Morris Avenue entrance will be the only access in and out of the monastery. Parking will also be limited since the drive in front of the chapel will be open only to pedestrians.
- Due to our temporary setup, we will not be able to accommodate requests for perpetual prayer enrollments outside of regular gift shop hours.

If you are not a regular visitor to the monastery, please call ahead or email nuns100@summitdominicans.org for updated information. It will be a time of adjustment for all of us. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience.