



Stella Maris

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of the Mother of God

Dear Family, Friends and Benefactors,

A summer salutation to you all! This time of year has brought longer days upon us, and the Sisters have filled nearly every moment of daylight with a bustling schedule! Shortly after the school year concluded, Elizabeth Zapp (now Sr. Maria Ignatia) entered the novitiate and six Sisters— Sr. Margaret Mary, Sr. Stephanie Marie, Sr. Evangeline Marie, Sr. Mary Imelda, and Sr. Maria Giovanna, and Sr. Mary Elizabeth— took their final vows. Thank you to all the family and friends who traveled to Omaha to celebrate this special occasion! Later, on July 2nd, we had three postulants enter the novitiate: Sarah Cerise, Emily Shaft, and Laura Stolz (now Sr. Maria Pia, Sr. Francine Marie and Sr. Maria Juliana, respectively). Our novitiate is now up to six Sisters!

At the beginning of June, we had our annual three-day retreat with all the Sisters. Many of the Sisters then dispersed to their missions to hold processions for the feast of Corpus Christi.

Summer catechism classes took place in Florida, Ohio, Colorado, and Minnesota. Our Motherhouse hosted our annual, Girls Camp, which gathered 150 girls from around the country (as well as some international guests!). Sisters in Arizona and Ontario held successful girls' camps as well. Our new chapel building has come a long way this summer thanks to the hard work of Br. Xavier and anyone else that has lent a helping hand.

A longtime generous benefactor of the Sisters in Burlington, Anna Grinnan, passed away, as well as the father, Albert Vopalenski, of our own Sr. Mary Alphonsa. We offer our prayers and condolences to their families and friends.

A new school year is soon upon us and our Sisters have all returned to their missions. Coming

up on August 15th, Sr. Magdalena will make her triennial vows and we will welcome a new postulant, Lucy Webster from Arizona.

With our prayers,
The Sisters of the
Mother of God





Catechism in O'Neill, NE



Catechism in Sartell, MN



Rosary procession on the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel during our girls' camp



We ended our girls' camp with a play in honor of St. Philomena.



Girls' Camps in Omaha, NE (*above*), near London, ON (*below, left*), and El Mirage, AZ (*below, right*)





We utilized our unfinished refectory during our annual retreat as we have definitely outgrown our previous one.



Some of the Sisters visited Arches National Park with their students while on their way to the NASP Tournament in Sandy, Utah



We are very grateful to Br. Xavier for all the work he has been putting into the new chapel building!



Ann Grinnan's Funeral



Decorating for Corpus Christi in Sartell, MN



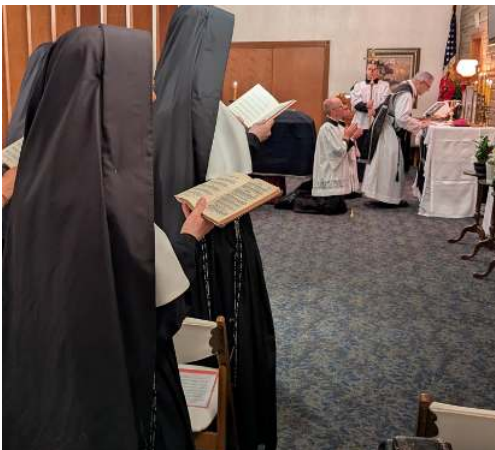
Digging for the electric line to our new chapel building



Novice ceremonies for Sr. Maria Ignatia, Sr. Maria Pia, Sr. Francine Marie, and Sr. Maria Juliana



Final Vow ceremonies for Sr. Margaret Mary, Sr. Stephanie Marie, Sr. Evangeline Marie, Sr. Mary Imelda, Sr. Maria Giovanna, and Sr. Mary Elizabeth



Albert Vopalenski passed into eternity on July 17. Sr. Mary Alphonsa was privileged to be with her dad in his last moments and to sing for his funeral.