

The Benedictine Community of St. Paul's Monastery

2675 Benet Road, St. Paul, MN 55109

651-777-8181

www.stpaulsmonastery.org

March Edition

Sister Paula Hagen, Prioress

March is a month filled with Lenten Blessings. We reflect and celebrate more intimately with Christ and the disciples on their spiritual journey to Jerusalem and the Garden of Gethsemane. We are inspired daily by the outstanding art show by He Qi, a world famous Christian artist. Sisters and quests pick out their favorite for times of reflection and prayer.

The great Saints, Benedict (whose Feast day is March 21), Joseph (March 19), and Patrick (March 17) give us much food for spiritual nourishment as we make our way with Christ to the Garden of Gethsemane and pray with Christ to redeem all the pain and suffering in our world today.

We invite the "rich and the poor" to enjoy our campus and our chapel for a view and experience of our lifetime of service in this area and prayer for world peace. All are Welcomed.

May the deep love of Christ bring you renewed hope and the courage to remain faithful to your baptismal call to wholeness for all eternity.



United in Lenten prayer and praise,
Sr. Paula Hagen OSB

Saying Goodbye to a friend, Sister Pat:

Save the Date!

**[Prioress Dinner](#)
[May 4th, 2017](#)**

*Lake Elmo Inn
Event Center*



Annette Walker
Mission Advancement
Director at
St. Paul's Monastery.
 For any donation needs
 she can be reached at
651-777-6850

Quick Links

[Monastery Website](#)



[Vocation](#)

To support the Sisters
 with a secure donation,
 go to the Monastery
 website. Thank you.

Sister Pat Collins, age 88, of St. Paul's Monastery, died on March 10, 2017 having lived and ministered as a Benedictine Sister for 66 years. She is preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Birdie; sisters Kate and Mary; brothers Joseph and James.



Sister Pat taught at Visitation School in Minneapolis and Assumption in Richfield. She was among the first teachers when Archbishop Murray Memorial High School opened in 1958 and continued there as teacher and counselor at the merged Hill-Murray School.

Sister Pat served the monastic community in formation ministry and administration. Upon retiring, she was the Monastery archivist and chronicler. Sister Pat is survived by nieces and nephews and by the Sisters, Oblates, hundreds of friends and Benedictine Associates of St.

Paul's Monastery.

Father Bill Kenny, a life-long friend of Sister Pat, presided at the Resurrection Mass on the Feast of St. Patrick (Sister Pat's name day). He focused his reflection on her joyful life as a Benedictine Sister with great faith, love for family, community and Ireland. A chapel filled with friends and family blessed her gravesite and then joined the Sisters for a festive meal, story-telling and Irish music.

She had chosen her dear friend Sister Eleanor Wartman to share reflections on her favorite scripture passage from Genesis 18 1-8, 16-17. She lived by the Rule of St. Benedict of Chapter 53: "Let all guests who arrive be received as Christ." Pat believed that every person we meet shows us the face of Christ - and she believed that guests who come to our door expect to encounter the face of Christ in us.

The Healthcare Center Needs Chairs!

The St Paul Monastery Healthcare Center is in need of funds to purchase several armchairs. All donations will help!



If you have ones to donate please note we are looking for the smaller side, lower to the ground for the shorter sisters and recliners would be nice. It would be wonderful if they could be fake leather so they are resistant to stains and odors. They must have arms and be stationary (no swivel or rocking chairs).

Please feel free to call in your donations at 651-777-8181 or by mail to: St Paul's Monastery, 2675 Benet Road, St Paul, MN 55109 - make sure you designate your donation to the Healthcare Center for chairs.

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Shadowing Benedictine Life!



Shadowing

Benedictine Life

**Saturday, July 8 -
Sunday, July 9, 2017**



You are invited to shadow a way of Benedictine life by joining the community for Liturgy of the Hours, meals, time for personal prayer and to seek God.

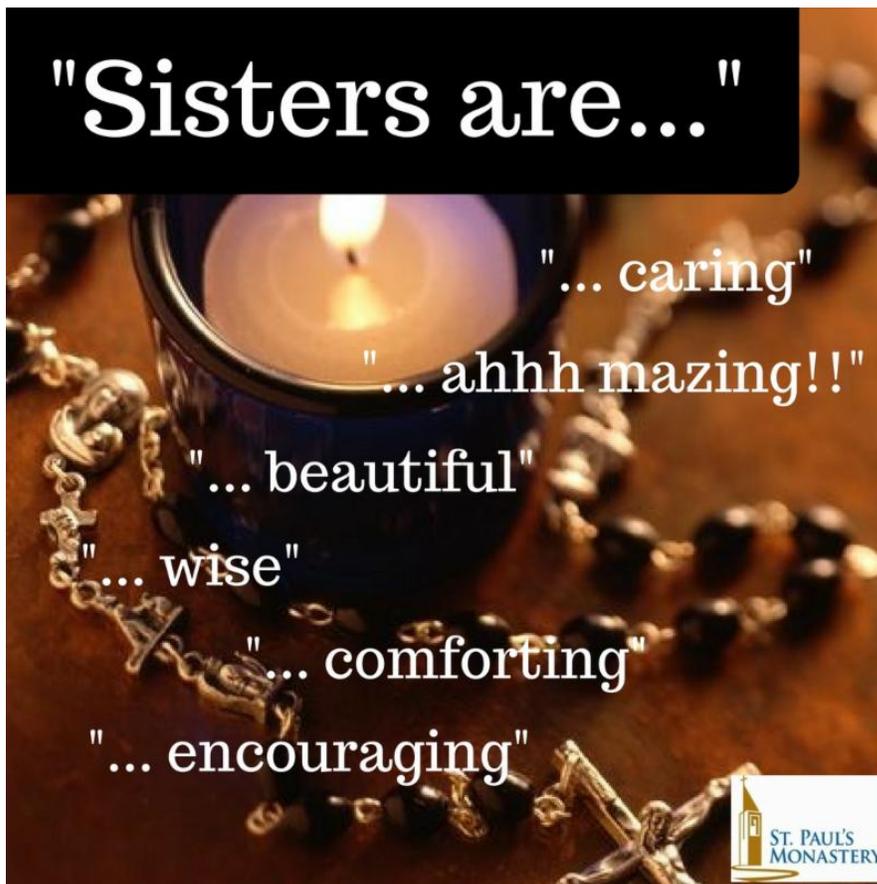
For more information, contact Sister Linda Soler at slinda@stpaulsmonastery.org or 651-777-8181

National Catholic Sisters Week

National Catholic Sisters Week or NCSW is an annual celebration that takes starts on March 8, International Women's Day and runs through March 14. It began in 2014 as part of National Women's History Month. This will be the fourth annual celebration in 2017.

The week is intended to honor the nation's 47,170 Catholic sisters and all who have gone before - founders of schools and hospitals, artists and activists, first responders and spiritual guides for all walks of life.

We asked for people to "Shout Out" and finish the sentence with one word, "Sisters are...." Here are some that we got in the photo below. We also received a wonderful story back about one of our very own Sisters.



My favorite teacher in grade school was Sr. Mark (Mary Courteau). She was at St. Bernard's teaching 3rd grade and wasn't there, as I recall, more than 2 years. I was lucky to have her for my 3rd grade year. She always had a smile on her face and a twinkle in her eye. She really cared about her students and was a real fan of spelling bees.

I hated spelling bees and was one of the first ones always down yet got A's in spelling. She couldn't figure this out and asked me one day after class how I could get A's in spelling and do so badly in spelling bees. To this day I can't spell out loud, I must write the word down but am still an excellent speller. In later years I also discovered I can't add numbers in my head, I must have a defective gene somewhere. Sister Mark was very sympathetic even though I wasn't sure she really understood as she continued to torture me with spelling bees!



I credit Sr. Mark with my handwriting as well, I get compliments on my penmanship all the time. I consider it well taught and well learned at her hand. I only hope my granddaughter gets taught as well or I shall have to employ Sr. Mark's methods and teach her myself.

So kudos and thanks to Sr. Mary Courteau (Sr. Mark) and all the Sisters for the excellent education!

Susan Atzmilller Korf
GS class 1965, HS class 1969

Feast of St Benedict - Justice Serving with Truth & Action



The life of both Benedict and Scholastica consisted of daily morning and evening prayer. Justice permeates the psalms which are the greater portion of the Divine Office. One focus throughout the psalms is Justice and the just actions of the righteous ones. A just person is someone who is virtuous and faithful to God. God generously bestows grace to all faithful people. The lives of Saint Benedict and Saint Scholastica testify to these aspects of Justice.

The daily reminders in the psalms of morning and evening prayer help to inspire a life of Justice: serving with truth and action. The regular collaboration between Scholastica and Benedict surely aided in shaping the chapters of the Rule. By organizing the monastic day with prayer and work, a balance of time includes honoring Justice for both God and neighbor.

Our blessed father, Benedict,
Sure guide in dark and troubled days,
Has shown his countless children here
The paths of peace, the Lord's own ways,
He dwelt in heaven while on earth,
True man of God and man of prayer;

For him, the love of Christ was all
 And God was present everywhere.
 He left all things that bind the heart,
 In poverty to find release;
 Unmoved among the things that change,
 He sought and found a lasting peace.
 Now Benedict with all who knew
 And lived his holy Rule on earth,
 Give praise to you, blest Trinity,
 In spendid light and time untold.

Amen.

Prioress Dinner Planning

The Prioress Dinner is **May 4, 2017** and will be a great event!

Stacey McCurnin, from Fladeboe Auctions, and Sister Linda Soler will be our auctioneers again this year. If you know of any "unique experiences" that are available for the Prioress Dinner LIVE auction, please **call Annette today (651-777-6850)**. Popular auction items include timeshare properties, get away places, spa experiences, memberships, concert or event tickets, art, celebrity encounters, and other such unique opportunities.

One of the auction items this year is a guided plane tour with professional pilot Don Shipp. Fellow passengers are Sister Linda Soler and Prioress Paula Hagen.

Prioress Dinner - Save the Date!

Register Today!

A CELEBRATION OF THE SISTERS AND THEIR MINISTRIES

2017 PRIORESS DINNER

MAY 4, 2017

LAKE ELMO INN EVENT CENTER

INVITATIONS TO FOLLOW

Electronic Invitations

'Yes' or 'No'?



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Contact Information

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Please join us in praying for [Vocations](#) to serve God's people.



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