

*A Grateful Remembrance...*

# FROM the FOOT of the CROSS



1720 *300* 2020  
Start of Passionist Congregation

1771 *250* 2021  
Foundation of Passionist Nuns

1946 *75* 2021  
Nuns come to Owensboro

1995 *25* 2020  
Relocation to Whitesville



This is what our Passionist life is all about: Cherishing Jesus, living in a perpetual remembrance of His Love, and bringing the message of His redemptive freedom to all.

As Christians we have so much for which to be grateful: Jesus in the Eucharist Whose Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity we can receive daily; The Trinity dwelling within through the gift of Baptism and the state of Grace; and the communion of Saints. These are only a few of the innumerable gifts given to us!

But are our priorities in right order? We lift our hands at sporting events and concerts but do we lift our hands in praise and intercession? We cover our face with a mask and talk about vaccine mandates but do we give such care and concern for our spiritual lives and the eternal welfare of our neighbor?

Jesus is the answer to all that ails our world. Our Monastery is dedicated to His love story. The history of the 75 years of our monastery's existence is a testimony to God's faithful providence, especially as mediated through the intercession of St. Joseph.

Let us plead for all persons to know the peace of Jesus who heals all ills, ends all conflicts, and consoles all who suffer. He can do this because He became one of us, journeyed through death, and, through His conquest, wants to take us with Him into everlasting glory. May all respond "yes" to His mercy and grace!

I hope this issue of *From the Foot of the Cross* inspires you to cherish Jesus in your life and fosters a greater desire in you to share in our mission. For all the ways you assist us we are eternally grateful.

*Mother John Mary and the Passionist Community of St. Joseph Monastery*  
*Year of Saint Joseph ~ Autumn 2021*

# Cherishing our Passionist Heritage

*For the vision is yet for the appointed time;  
It hastens toward the goal and it will not fail.  
Though it tarries, wait for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay.*

*Habakkuk 2:3*



**Sr. Mary Therese** stands beside the Passionist Jubilee display in our chapel.

The image, designed by Sr. Mary Therese and painted by Mary Jane Blanford in 1988, depicts **Venerable Mother Mary Crucified, first Passionist Nun**, with a throng of nuns in her train (hard to see in this photo!), representing the generations who have followed her in Passionist Contemplative life.

*We were thrilled when Pope Francis announced the Year of St. Joseph at the close of the unforgettable year 2020. It came at the dawn of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Passionist Nuns (May 3, 2021), as well as the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our monastery dedicated to his patronage (October 7, 2021), and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our relocation from Owensboro to Whitesville (December 2020). And now St. Joseph is overseeing our Cherish the Flame project for the expansion and improvement of our living quarters.*

*The history of our monastery is a testimony to God's loving providence, especially as mediated through the intercession of St. Joseph. From our first nuns in 18<sup>th</sup>-century Italy, all the way to the nuns who have carried on Passionist life here in the diocese of Owensboro, our story tells of women who have been open to the journey of faith, and of the wonders that God's Providence can accomplish through hearts that, like St. Joseph, keep on saying "yes" to His plan.*

## Cherishing Passionist Life - 250 Years

"Do you not see, Crucified, how all of My promises are exactly fulfilled?" Joy and tender gratitude welled up in the heart of Mother Mary Crucified of Jesus as she heard these words, spoken by Jesus in the depth of her soul. It was May 3, 1771, a day that marked a new beginning for her and for ten other women, as they entered the Monastery of the Presentation at Corneto (present day Tarquinia) Italy and became the first women to live Passionist contemplative life according to the Rule written by St. Paul of the Cross. In 1738 she had first met the Passionist founder, and shortly thereafter Jesus Himself had revealed to her in a vision that she was to cooperate in the founding of a convent of nuns who would share in the charism of the Passionists.

Little did Mother Mary Candida (her name as a Benedictine nun before she became a Passionist) dream that thirty-three years of waiting, trials, setbacks, and obstacles lay between her and the fulfillment of her heart's desire: lack of funding for buildings due to crop failure, disputes on the part of ecclesiastical authorities regarding particularities of Paul's Rule for the Nuns, well-intentioned interference from Mother Candida's own brothers, and an over-zealous Italian Princess, to name a few. How many anguished conversations she must have had with the Good Lord during those years! In the wake of a particular disappointment, Paul of the Cross would reassure her, "Don't worry, for in due time, if this is

the will of God, He will show the way to accomplish everything He wants." Truly, *in due time*, the promises of her Lord and Bridegroom were *exactly fulfilled*. The Congregation of Passionist Nuns was established, and from that first monastery it spread across the globe. The second monastery to be founded was in Maumers, France, a monastery named for...guess who? St. Joseph! In the 149 years since the founding of monastery #2, only one other monastery of Passionist nuns named for St. Joseph has been founded. That is OUR monastery! God's unfailing Providence has been manifested in a particular way for our monastery through the intercession of St. Joseph.



A nun praying in Tarquinia. A customary posture of prayer in our Passionist monasteries around the globe.



The well that our first nuns drank from. Pictured here is Sr. Luzia, CP of our St. Gemma Monastery in Brazil.



Primitive kitchen of the first monastery in Tarquinia. Now kept as a museum.



Thanks are due to **Elaine Morris**, Sr. Mary Andrea's aunt, who generously helped with the creation of our mantles; to **Bill and Bernadine Read**, Mother John Mary's parents, who created the mantle hooks; to **John Schweska** who led us via Zoom in a morning of recollection on the theological and scriptural basis of the mantle; and to **Bishop Medley** who gave us permission to celebrate the Votive Mass and Office of the Triumph of the Cross, which was the liturgical feast celebrated on May 3 in 1771.

## Take up Your Cloaks!

If you ever see an old holy card or image of a Passionist saint, such as St. Paul of the Cross, or St. Gabriel Possenti, you will notice the distinctive black mantle worn over the Passionist habit. Now, if you come and join us for a solemn liturgical celebration in our chapel, you will see the Passionist mantle in real life! It is a traditional part of the Passionist habit both for the priests and the nuns, but it has fallen out of use in recent decades.

We made the decision this year to reinstitute the use of the mantle in honor of the 250<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of the Founding of the Passionist Nuns. We were humbly honored on May 3 to don once again the mantles that our first sisters wore, praying for a "double portion" of the Passionist spirit which they lived so faithfully. We were joined that evening by Bishop Medley and priests and religious of our diocese for Solemn Vespers and a socially-distanced social.

# *Cherishing the History of Saint Joseph Monastery*

## *75 Years in the Diocese of Owensboro*

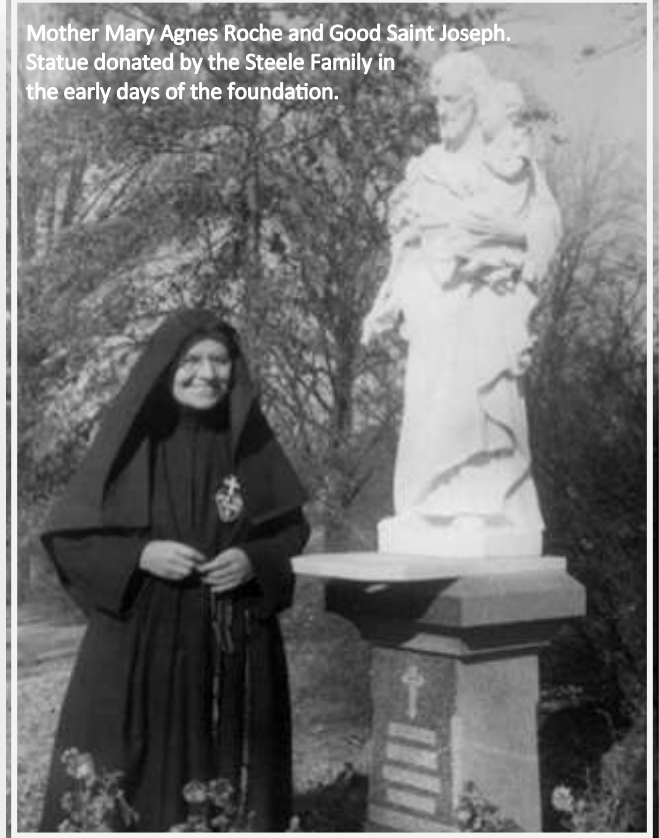
A treasured part of the heritage of our monastery of St. Joseph here in Kentucky is the story of Mother Mary Agnes Roche, beloved Mother-Foundress, and how she, in the company of four other sisters from St. Gabriel's Monastery in Scranton, PA set about the daunting task of establishing a new Passionist Monastery here in the diocese of Owensboro. The year was 1944, and it had become clear to Mother and the Scranton community that God was calling them to make the new foundation, but *how in the world* were they to go about it? How to even begin?

For Mother Mary Agnes, the first step was "a long talk with St. Joseph", of which we have an account in her own words: *"I said to him, 'What am I to do? They want me to make a new foundation, and I don't know where to go or what to do. But, dear St. Joseph, if you take over, I'll follow the counsel of those who have the right to advise me.'"*

St. Joseph truly did "take over"! Within two years, on October 7, 1946, a new monastery of Passionist Nuns was opened on Benita Avenue in Owensboro Kentucky, and there was no question as to whose patronage the monastery should be dedicated. In the words of Mother Mary Agnes: *"It was with great confidence in St. Joseph that we came, as we had so specially placed our difficulties before him...St. Joseph manifested his care by donations sent in his honor or in his name. This happened so frequently that we decided on dedicating the new monastery to his patronage."*

The difficulties faced by the Sisters were not few as they strove to carry on their Passionist life while adapting to their new situation, but they received tremendous support from the local Ordinary, Bishop Francis Cotton, the Passionist priests in Louisville, and so many good priests, sisters, and laypeople of the diocese and the surrounding region.

The new "monastery" consisted of a large manor house, a smaller cottage, and a garage, situated on a four-acre space of property. Eager to firmly establish the prayer life of the monastery from the very beginning, Mother Mary Agnes saw to it that alterations were made to the living spaces so that they would be, as a true cloister, suitable for safeguarding the prayer and solitude of the nuns. Most importantly, a space in the larger building was transformed into a chapel where the Blessed Sacrament would be reserved.



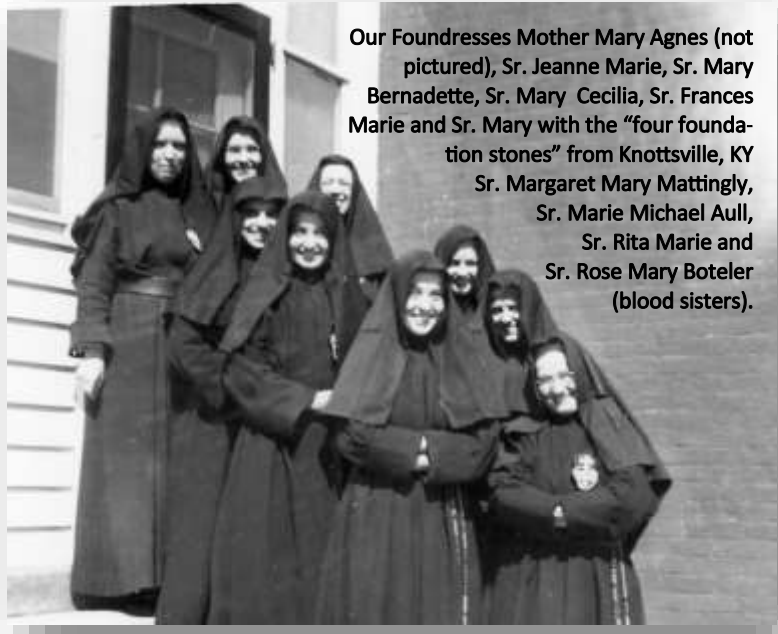
Mother Mary Agnes Roche and Good Saint Joseph. Statue donated by the Steele Family in the early days of the foundation.



To guard holy recollection it was the custom in contemplative monasteries around the world to lower one's veil when receiving workers into the cloister. The nuns discontinued this in the 1950's to the great relief of the workmen!

At right you see the old Monarch Home that served as the first monastery.





**Our Foundresses Mother Mary Agnes (not pictured), Sr. Jeanne Marie, Sr. Mary Bernadette, Sr. Mary Cecilia, Sr. Frances Marie and Sr. Mary with the “four foundation stones” from Knottsville, KY Sr. Margaret Mary Mattingly, Sr. Marie Michael Aull, Sr. Rita Marie and Sr. Rose Mary Boteler (blood sisters).**

found the expense to be greater than anticipated, and the nuns found themselves short \$2,000. Mother Mary Agnes turned confidently to St. Joseph, and sure enough, in a week’s time, on a Wednesday, a check for \$2,000 arrived from a benefactor unknown to the community. The enclosure wall was completed on March 18, the vigil of the feast of St. Joseph.

Mother Mary Agnes continued to quietly raise funds and all the sisters prayed to St. Joseph, holding onto hopes for the next construction project. It was another five years before a two-story wing was completed, and not until 1961 that the rest of the monastery and the chapel were completed. In due time, St. Joseph had come through once again.

The blessing of the new monastery and chapel took place on the First Friday of March—the month dedicated to St. Joseph. Fourteen years after the move to Benita Avenue, the Passionist Nuns had a real monastic home, under one roof with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

The nuns began hosting weekend retreats for women in March 1947. To accommodate retreatants, as well as the growing community, they converted the attic into a dormitory for the nuns, leaving the second story for retreatants. The dining room went to the retreatants on the weekends, while the nuns ate in the basement.

To support themselves, in addition to the revenue brought in by the retreat ministry, the nuns baked altar breads, sewed altar linens, and made vestments to supply parishes and priests in the diocese and beyond. Later on, they would also be engaged in some printing work.

It was clear from the beginning that a new wing was needed to provide more adequate space, and also a real chapel, but first on the list was an enclosure wall for the property, a project which began in early 1948. In the course of construction, the contractor



## Interview with Sister Mary Elizabeth of the Holy Spirit

**What year did you enter?:** July 8, 1960

**What is Passionist life all about?** Looking upon Jesus Crucified as He looks upon me, and us, the whole world. Jesus said, if I be lifted up, I will draw all to Myself. Jesus on the Cross with a heart full of suffering love has called me, and the whole community, in a very special way, to remember His Sacred Passion in union with our Sorrowful Mother as we are in spirit with her interceding for the Church and the world.

We do this by our penance, solitude, prayer. The Holy Founder, Paul of the Cross, said 24 hours a day keep praying! You know, don’t give up! And we do that by

our silence, our prayer, our solitude, our work. We always try to stay in the presence of God. To be happy in the Lord!

**Has Passionist life changed over the years since the foundation of the monastery?** I would say the essentials have remained. Going from the city into the rural area, the country, has increased, I think, our prayer life and our solitude.

**You knew all the foundresses. What’s is something that you found inspiring about them?** I guess the first thing I want to say: They embodied the Holy Rule of Paul of the Cross. Fidelity to the observance, and in doing God’s holy will with love and devotion. Deep spirit of faith, I mean you had to have faith, to come all the way from Pennsylvania to Kentucky.

And the poverty, even though we had a big two story house, three stories with the

attic...it was beginning to...not exactly crumble but it was...The poverty there was just extreme, but you know they persevered through all that.

And then, their generous sacrifices, in leaving all to follow Jesus in His Sacred Passion, leaving their families, never going back to their homes.

**Would you have any brief words for the people of our diocese in the light of our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary?** Just a heart full of gratitude to the dear Lord for His Divine Providence. We want to be faithful to what the Holy Founder gave us for the good of the diocese: the priests, and vocations to priesthood and religious life, and good married life, for couples to stay together, and persevere in fidelity. Just thanksgiving for the good bishops we’ve had, every one has just been so wonderful.



# *Cherishing Twenty Five Years in Whitesville*

In the year 1991, the nuns living in the Owensboro monastery heard the call from God to move to a new location. The project was daring to say the least; how ever would these women go about the construction of a whole new monastery? It was confidence in Divine Providence and long experience of the guidance and care of St. Joseph, the “man of the house”, that gave the nuns the boldness to step out in faith. “St. Joseph’s Helpers” from far and near came together and helped us in so many ways to achieve the impossible.

The big move to the newly completed Whitesville monastery took place in December 1995, and the flame of Passionist life found a new beginning and increased vigor in this sanctuary of prayer, silence, and beauty. The silence and solitude of the location were ideal for fostering contemplative communion with God for nuns and guests alike. The new chapel facilitated participation of guests in the daily Mass and liturgies of the nuns in a way that had not been possible before.

Standing on the shoulders of the valiant women who have carried the flame of Passionist life through the centuries, who lit that fire in the Owensboro monastery, and fanned it to a blaze here in Whitesville, it is a profound honor and joy for us, the nuns of today, to carry on their



**Sr. Frances Marie, Sr. Mary Bernadette, and Sr. Mary Cecilia,** our foundresses who were living at the time of our relocation to Whitesville, KY. This picture was taken after a moment of prayer during which we entrusted the construction of our new monastery to St. Joseph.

mission of loving prayer and prayerful love here at the Foot of the Cross, striving to say “yes” as they did to God’s plan in our times.

In 2019 the Holy Spirit inspired us to begin a community renewal to “Cherish the Flame” of our Passionist Vocation. From this renewal flowed our building and renovation project. So... St. Joseph is at it again overseeing our Cherish the Flame project for the expansion and improvement of our living quarters.



**Lift High the Cross of Jesus Crucified** for God so loved the world that He gave His only Son.



December 27 we hosted a COVID-safe drive-thru celebration with our neighbors.



### All Praise and Thanks to God for the Founding of the Passionist Nuns

This picture of our monastic community with our Bishop William Medley was taken May 3, 2021 on the occasion of our 250th Foundation Anniversary.

During this jubilee year, a song of gratitude and praise arises from our hearts to almighty God for His unfailing Providence; for giving us St. Joseph as faithful guardian, protector, and spiritual father; and for the many, many people who, inspired by God's grace, have helped to make our life possible. Truly, we could not have done it without you!

## *Entrusting the Passionist Nuns' Congregation to Saint Joseph*

### Entrustment of our Monastic Congregation to the protection of St. Joseph

O glorious St. Joseph, you were chosen by the Eternal Father as the Guardian of the Redeemer and Chaste Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. With confidence in your powerful intercession over the Heart of your Divine Son, we choose you today as the protector of our Monastic Congregation.

We turn to you who have power to render possible things that are for us impossible, and we implore you to take under your special care all the temporal and spiritual needs of our Congregation. We trust that you will do for us what we cannot do for ourselves.

Dear St. Joseph, by the love you have for Jesus and Mary, pray for us continually that we may live a life worthy of our Passionist vocation, be protected from all evil, and spend ourselves generously with Jesus in bringing as many souls as possible to the Kingdom of heaven.  
Amen.



On November 29, the First Sunday of Advent, Mother Catherine Marie invited all of the monasteries of Passionist nuns throughout the world to unite in a consecration of the individual monasteries and of our whole monastic Congregation to the protection and care of St. Joseph.

It was only ten days later that Pope Francis declared the year of St. Joseph for the Universal Church! Did he get his idea from Mother Catherine Marie? No! We know they both got it from the Holy Spirit! With international travel restricted over the past year due to COVID, Mother Catherine Marie has been engaged in focused work with the monasteries of Italy, as well as virtual assistance to monasteries across the globe, with the aim of maximal living of Passionist life in individual monasteries and in the Congregation as a whole.



# Cherish the Flame

*We ask God's choicest blessings on Joe Helming of Helming Bros Inc and on Kyle Cook and all the roofing crew for their diligent work since last November and especially during these hot summer months when the heat index has exceeded 100 degrees on many days.*



**The Helming crew enjoying some homemade banana ice cream. May God bless Kyle, Josh, Pierce, Branton, Evan, Gabriel, Manny, and Trey!**



**Raising a new gutter for installation**





# *We have a New Roof!*

*In the Spring of 2020 we first shared with you about our expansion and renovation campaign. In our Autumn 2020 newsletter we highlighted our need for a new roof. Thanks be to God you helped us make our need a reality! The end is in sight for the installation of a Spanish clay tile roof.*



## *What's Next?*

Thanks to the persevering work of **Aaron Nacey** (in photo at right) of AXI-OM Architecture and consulting engineers we are finishing the jurisdictional plan review for the new cloister walkway and loggia. Then **Rick Bivins** of JMJ Commercial Building will file for the building permit.

After that will commence the work on the Holy Family Wing. At right **Laura Ruth Edge** of L. Ruth Interior Design holds the floor tile chosen for the loggia that will connect the monastery to the new wing. You may be wondering: What is a loggia? It is a sheltered walkway enclosed on some or all sides and is distinguished by arches and columns.



***With St. Joseph leading the way \$1,885,000 has been raised and we only have \$2M to go!***

***You can help us reach our goal with a gift to our Cherish the Flame Campaign.***

***Please earmark donations for the Cherish the Flame Building Project.***

***More information and photos can be found at [passionistnuns.org](http://passionistnuns.org).***

An updated campaign donor listing will be shown in our next newsletter

## *We are forever grateful to God and to You!*

# Cherish

## A Life Commitment

In a solemn Mass on December 12, **Christie Swanson** made her perpetual commitment as an Affiliate of our Monastery. Christie first encountered our community in 2001 when she was invited to join the Passionist Oblate formation program beginning in early 2002. She made her Act of Oblation in 2005. Under the direction of the Superior at the time, Mother Catherine Marie, she discerned a call to the unique vocation of a Lay Affiliate, entering the community in 2009.

Christie lives within the monastery, sharing in the communal prayer and work and managing our retreat house. She lives our Passionist charism in the spirit of the Evangelical counsels, yet rather than professing the five Passionist vows as the nuns do, she is bound by a private commitment to Christ, which she has renewed on a yearly basis, until on this special day, she sealed her covenant with Christ and her commitment to our community for life. The joyous occasion could not have been more beautiful. Although there was a limited attendance due to COVID, Christie's grandchildren and some of our Oblates were able to celebrate with us.



*"The day of my commitment was filled with God's love and grace. I am grateful beyond words. I live in the house of the Lord and serve Him in every part of my day, especially in the retreat house, where we extend God's love and welcome to everyone who comes here to make a retreat.*

*"This Affiliate Commitment was a gift I am able to give to Jesus Crucified who so willingly and lovingly sacrificed everything so that I may share a life of intimate union with Him."*



Christie with her beloved family who were able to participate in her special day: **Jocelyn, Caelyn, Camren and Lori.**



Retreat House Entrance

# The Flame of the Future



Sr. Maria Faustina (at right) renewed her temporary vows last December 8.

Sr. Frances Marie renewed her temporary vows August 15.

Please God, both will make Final Vows in 2022!



Annual Feast Day Tea Party for our Novice Directress, Sr. Mary Veronica. That white veiled novice you see, Sr. Miriam Esther, will make her First Profession of vows on October 30. Hannah, a Whitesville native, entered our aspirancy program (the initial stage of discernment and formation) May 2021.



Our vocation retreats of October 2020 and June 2021 brought young ladies from far and wide to learn about Passionist life and what being a consecrated bride of Christ is *really* like. In July 2021 we were blessed by a visit from *The Wildflowers* girls group from Steubenville, Ohio, who came to learn about our life. They also helped us blend some roof tiles while they were here!



October 2020



June 2021



The Wildflowers-July 2021

# Monastic Moments Through the Past Year



Our display for the Feast of Saint Joseph on March 19. The reliquary holds a relic of a tiny piece of a mantle of Saint Joseph.



On November 21, 2021 we renewed our vows during Mass celebrated by Bishop Medley. This was also the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Passionist Congregation.





Fr Vincent Ferrer Bagan, OP leads a music workshop in August 2021



Mother John Mary had a delightful visit with our Passionist Nuns in Ellisville, MO (a St. Louis suburb) in July. She is seen here with Mother Mary Veronica (r) and Sr. Mary Elizabeth



Joe Helming uses his Boom lift to help us harvest mulberries



Visit [PassionistNuns.org](http://PassionistNuns.org)



# Cherishing Our Deceased Loved Ones

DONALD TIMOTHY WYNN



Donald Timothy (Tim) Wynn, the father of Sr. Cecilia Maria, passed away at age 72 on December 13, 2020, after a long battle with prostate cancer. Born on Oct. 12, 1948 in Akron, OH, he graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1971 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Army Corps of Engineers. His 30 years of military service included assignments in Korea, Thailand, Honduras, Hawaii, and Saudi Arabia, as well as the continental United States. Tim was assigned to six different Corps of Engineer Districts, culminating in his assignment as Commander of the Transatlantic Programs Center. Among other awards, he received the Wheeler Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and four Army Meritorious Service Medals.

Upon retiring from the military in 2001, having attained the rank of Colonel, Tim assumed the job of Director of Facilities at Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA, where he oversaw several major construction projects. He permanently retired in the summer of 2011. Tim's wide-ranging interests included astronomy, woodworking, science fiction books, classical music, hiking, and travelling. He was a member of Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Bellingham.

The Passionist Nuns have always counted the parents of our Sisters as our biggest benefactors, for they give the priceless gift of a daughter to be one of the brides of Christ Crucified. Over the eleven years that we were blessed to count Tim as a part of our family, he truly became a beloved friend and constant support for our life of prayer at the foot of the Cross. Our monastery is graced with several pieces of woodworking from his workshop, and one of his few regrets at the close of his life was that he never got to see the Cherish the Flame building project underway! Tim's love, wisdom, and wit is missed, but we are certain he remains one of our benefactors, interceding for us now with the Lord!

## MARY MARCELLA SCHEPERS

On November 1, 2020, a beloved member of our Oblate community, Mary Marcella Howard Schepers, was called home to God. Marcella and her husband, Elmer (RIP 2014) were charter members of our Passionist Oblates, joining the association at its beginnings in 1997.

Marcella and Elmer lent their helping hands for many monastery projects over the years. She was the first manager of our Passionist Inspiration Gift Shop. She was a lifelong lover of learning, and diligently studied the Faith, our Passionist charism, and the works of our Founder, St. Paul of the Cross. We could always count on deep insights and thought-provoking questions from Elmer and Marcella at the monthly Oblate meetings. Even when she was no longer able to come to the meetings, she treasured the Passionist charism and proudly displayed her Passion sign.

The Lord permitted her a special share in His Cross in the last months of her life as she suffered from the isolation of the COVID lockdown. We know that her love for Christ Crucified, which we had watched her nurture so faithfully throughout her life, sustained her in these days until her final Passover with Him into Resurrection joy. She went home to the embrace of the Lord on the Solemnity of All Saints. We extend our sympathy to Marcella's brothers, children, and all her family.



## LAWRENCE ANTHONY SEITZ



Lawrence A. Seitz, brother of Sr. Mary Therese, passed away on April 13, 2021. He was born in Paducah on December 1, 1942 to the late John M. Seitz and Rosalee Englert Seitz. Lawrence was a retired home builder. He was a member of St. John's the Evangelist Catholic Church. Lawrence served in the United States Army.

Lawrence is remembered as a humble, loving brother with a quiet yet strong faith. His experience of suffering at different times in his life deepened his faith and gave him an awareness of eternity. A lasting legacy of his here at our monastery are the outdoor Stations of the Cross. In 2011, Lawrence and his family refurbished the brass stations and built a wooden gabled stand for each to be placed inside of. Ever afterwards, every visit to "Sr. Betty", he would go out and clean the brass, and clear away any spider webs. His loving work turned out to be a preparation for his own Way of the Cross, as shortly after completing our Stations, he was diagnosed with a brain tumor and faced an eleven-hour surgery which was successful, though he would bear the lasting effects for the rest of his life. He faced this cross as he did all the hardships of his life, with strong faith, cheerfulness, and with love for his family and for God which made him think of others and not of himself.

Our condolences and prayers to his wife of 54 years, Judy Scott Seitz; daughters Lori Bondurant and Kim Valerius, and to all the family.

### *Saint Joseph Helpers*

#### Volunteers Blend Roof Tiles

Thank you to all who helped with tile blending. Photos at right show some of the volunteers. What does it mean to "blend roof tiles"? Each pallet of Spanish clay tiles has a slightly different hue. The tiles must be blended from several pallets before they are placed on the roof and installed so that we don't have a striped or patched look. Normally the contractor does this but to save money, nuns and volunteers have been doing this since February!

#### Rebuilding the Mims' Bridge to Saint Michael's Peak

Special thanks to **David Nash**, members of the **Exodus 90** and **The Knights of Columbus** for their labor; and to **Senator Matt Castlen** and **Hayden Construction** for the donation of steel beams.

#### A Few New Volunteers

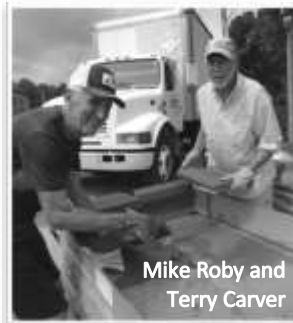
This summer brought us some new regular volunteers: **Terry Carver** to assist with mowing and **Mark Heinz**. We thank you!

#### Some Chapel Improvements During the Pandemic

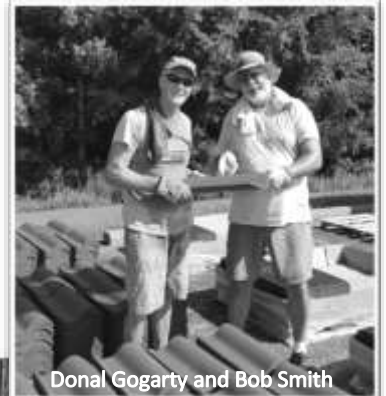
**Bill and Bernadine Read** (Mother John Mary's parents) refurbished the wood on our cloister gates and the paint on the water channel. They also built hooks for our mantles. (See more about this on page 3.) They make a great team and congratulations are due as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary!



Blaise Morris, Evan Burch, Noah Pike, Nolan Howard, and Jude Wenke



Mike Roby and Terry Carver



Donal Gogarty and Bob Smith



Chris Thompson



# FROM THE FOOT OF THE CROSS



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## *Cherish the Flame*



### *a dream come true...*

How can we ever express our gratitude for where you have brought us to this day in our building campaign? You helped us get a new roof during our Jubilee Year - a dream come true!

Here some of the nuns hold the plans for the cloister walkway and the connector from the monastery to the yet-to-be-built Holy Family wing. You have brought us to this point - thank you!

The greatest dream we have is for all of us to meet merrily one day in Heaven where there will be no more sorrow and illness but where we will all know and love one another in God.

We are here for you. Please let us know how we can pray for you. God loves you and so do we!

*passionistnuns.org / cherish-the-flame*