



# BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF PITTSBURGH

4530 Perrysville Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA 15229-2296 • (412) 931-8968 • www.osbpgh.org

July 8, 2011

Dear Friend,

Flowing from the Rule of St. Benedict, the rule by which our Sisters live their lives, the primary ministry of the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh is to pray the Liturgy of the Hours communally for the Church, the People of God. St. Benedict in his wisdom recognized that action must be balanced by contemplation. That is why his words have such staying power, and why we continue to live by them day after day, seeking God in prayer, community and ministry.

We pray that all people may grow closer to God. We pray for peace on earth and for the sick and the disadvantaged. We pray for our benefactors and all those who support all our ministries in various ways. We pray for the faithful departed, and we lovingly receive and remember all those prayer requests sent to us by men, women and children locally and from around the world.

Prayer may be a formal act, but it may also be a brief pause in the midst of a busy day, a few minutes spent meditating in the Chapel, or the lifting of our hearts in song to God during Mass. Regardless of the form it takes, prayer is what gives us life, and it is prayer that allows us to discern the Lord's call.

*As a friend of the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh, you have supported so many of the good works that flow from our prayer. With the help of good people like you, we have opened our homes and hearts in hospitality to strangers, including refugee families from Vietnam, Cambodia, Uganda and Bosnia. We have offered safe haven to a family from Mexico whose baby daughter's health was threatened. We have provided lodging to student Sisters from India, Kenya, Uganda, Australia, Ireland, the Bahamas, Canada, and from throughout the United States.*

When you look at our many ministries, you can see how the Benedictine mission transforms ordinary activities into extraordinary opportunities for transformation. **Sister Julie Makowski, OSB**, is a perfect example of how our life of prayer plays out in practical ways.

*(over, please)*



*Sister Julie Makowski, OSB, may serve as parish secretary and office manager at Incarnation Parish, but her "real" work is focused on sharing Benedictine values with every person who comes through her office.*

▼ Please tear along the perforation and return the slip below in the enclosed reply envelope. ▼

## BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF PITTSBURGH

Dear Sister Benita, I want to help the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh continue their mission of seeking God in prayer, community and ministries. Enclosed is my gift:

\$10    \$25    \$50    \$100    \$200    \$500    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My check, made payable to the *Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh*, is enclosed or

Please charge my    VISA    MC    Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

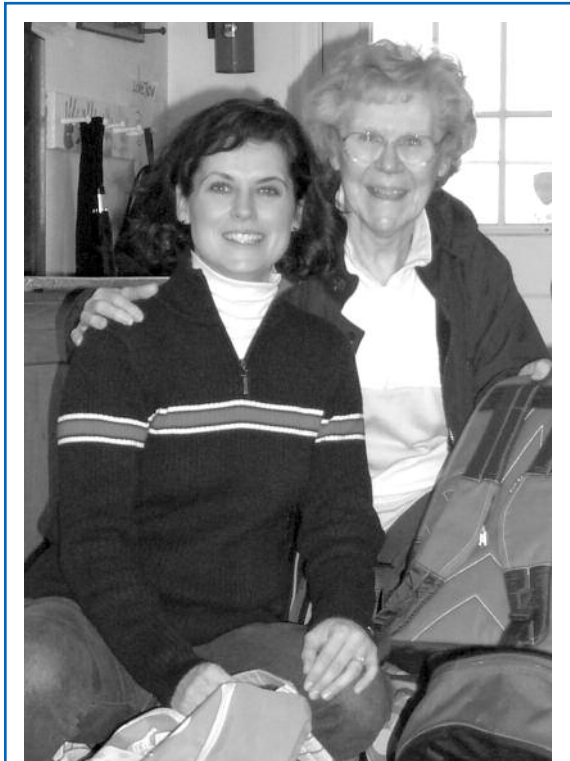
or please give a gift online at [www.osbpgh.org](http://www.osbpgh.org)

To share the power of prayer, send special occasion spiritual cards to family & friends. Whatever the occasion, the Sisters' "spiritual bouquets" provide perfect gifts & benefit everyone!

Yes, please send me a selection of special occasion spiritual cards.

Although she has served as secretary, bookkeeper and office manager at Incarnation Parish since 1986, she says that her “real ministry” is to help build up the Church of Pittsburgh.

“I make an effort to do this by sharing our Benedictine values to all those who drop in the office on any given day, or who phone for a particular need,” she says. “My prayer and hope is that each life I touch will in turn pass on the Light of Christ and the Benedictine values of peace, hospitality and justice to those whose lives they touch, until it comes ‘full circle.’”



*As pastoral minister at St. Teresa Avila Parish in Perrysville, Sister Rosalyn Soller, OSB, has a special love for the parish school, which has been operated by our Benedictine community for more than 100 years*

That spirit of hospitality, compassion and love is also evident at St. Teresa of Avila Parish in Perrysville, where **Sister Rosalyn Soller, OSB**, is pastoral minister. “Education is a many splendored thing, and we at St. Teresa Parish cover the gamut,” she says. “Ongoing courses in Scripture, structured Centering Prayer Classes and preparing candidates for Baptism and full commitment to the Catholic Church in the RCIA programs constitute my endeavors to bring about the kingdom in the large suburban parish of St. Teresa of Avila. I am also cheerleader for the wonderful elementary school at St. Teresa's that has been capably run by our Benedictine community for over 100 years. We are hoping for another 100.”

*We can only hope for that kind of future with your help. Your gifts allow us to provide schools, shelters, spiritual support and more to people in need. Your friendship allows us to bring our Benedictine spirituality and values into a world desperate for balance and assistance. Will you send a gift today to enable our Sisters to continue the mission St. Benedict set before us 1,500 years ago?*

We are so grateful for your friendship and your commitment to our Sisters and our mission. We will remember you in our prayers and good works each day. Please include your intentions on the reply slip below, and return them with your gift.

God bless you for all you do to further our mission and the cause of peace and justice in our world. May you always find time for quiet prayer amid the busyness of life.

With warmest regards,

*Sister Benita DeMatteis, OSB.*

Sister Benita DeMatteis, OSB  
Prioress

*P.S. Be sure to visit our website, [www.osbpgh.org](http://www.osbpgh.org), where you can request prayers, learn about bequests, or make a gift online.*

▼ Please tear along the perforation and return the slip below in the enclosed reply envelope. ▼

*We want to remember you and your loved ones in prayer when we gather in our chapel to raise our hearts and voices in gratitude to God each day. Please list your prayer needs in the space below:*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---