



Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen

Dear Friends,

Here it is, September already! Summer has flown by. Why does it always do that? Probably because it is so packed with activities that differ from those of the rest of the year. Many of our Sisters have had the opportunity to travel during the past three months, some to visit family, and others to teach catechism to children who are not able to attend Catholic schools. Some of their travels were occasioned by being assigned to a different mission or to return to the motherhouse at Mount St. Michael.

Our first summer catechism missions were in Tennessee, Louisiana and Mississippi in early June. Lewiston and Boise, Idaho, were next, toward the beginning of July. Our yearly catechism camp in Acton, California, took place simultaneously with Camp St. Philomena here at Mount St. Michael in the latter half of July. Finally, the last catechism camp of this summer took place in Maine in mid-August.

Also in August came the ladies' retreat, another annual event at the Mount. The patron saint of this year's retreat was St.



Our new novices, Sr. Marie Gabrielle (Catherine Dombrowski) and Sr. Dymphna Marie (Morgan Duggan) receive the Holy Rule and their habit rosaries.

Anthony. In addition to three days of silent retreat, the ladies had time to visit with one another and with the Sisters, as well as an opportunity to go rafting on the Spokane River.

Besides all these apostolic labors, we made our own yearly retreat, which was followed by the jubilee and vows ceremonies on June 27, the feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help. This year saw three

Sisters celebrating their golden jubilee: our own Sr. Mary Isabella and Sr. Mary Imelda were joined by Sr. Mary Tarcisius of the Sister Servants of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Think of that: *50 years in the service of God!* That's half a century of a life of prayer, obedience, self-sacrifice, poverty, simplicity! It is always a joy to celebrate these momentous anniversaries with our jubilarians, true veterans in the service of God. What a rich harvest of souls must be the fruit of those years!

Several other Sisters had much to celebrate that day: Sr. Margaret Mary and Sr. Maria Dolorosa made their final profession, and Sr. Maria Magdalena renewed her vows for three years. And we can't leave out our youngest members, those to whom the future of our Congregation belongs: Sr. Clara Marie and Sr. Mary Fatima, who made their first vows, and Sr. Dymphna Marie and Sr. Marie Gabrielle who became novices. But they will not be the youngest for long: we are now looking forward to the arrival of five postulants this fall.

Our summer "vacation" this year consisted of day trips to various natural attractions in the area: a tour of the Silver Mine in Wallace Idaho, a day of boating at Lake Coeur d'Alene, a trip to Gardiner Caves near the Canadian border, horseback riding and virtual golf sponsored by parishioners of St. Michael's.

It is hard to believe that with this issue we



The group photo after the vows ceremonies included three Golden Jubilarians, two Sisters who made their perpetual profession of vows, three Sisters who renewed their vows, and two new novices.

are beginning our fourteenth year of publishing our *Anima Mariae* newsletter. In the first issues we shared with our readers comments on the poem from which our newsletter gets its name. It is doubtless high time we made our many new subscribers familiar with this little verse (below) which so well epitomizes the spirit of our Congregation:

Anima Mariae

Soul of Mary, sanctify me.
Heart of Mary, inflame me.
Hands of Mary, support me.
Feet of Mary, direct me.
Immaculate eyes of Mary, look upon me.
Lips of Mary, speak for me.
Sorrows of Mary, strengthen me.
O Mary, hear me.
In the wound of the Heart of Jesus,
hide me.
Let me never be separated from thee.
From my enemy defend me.
At the hour of my death call me,
And bid me to come to
thine Immaculate Heart;
That thus I may come to
the Heart of Jesus,
And there with the saints praise thee
For all eternity. Amen.

—The Reign of Jesus through Mary
Gabriel Denis, SMM—