

# Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen



Dear Friends,

While a good part of the country has experienced extremely cold temperatures and a fair amount of snow, winter in the Pacific Northwest has been relatively mild this year. We are pretty sure that St. Joseph and the Infant of Prague had a hand in that, so that the novitiate building project could keep moving forward. At long last the permits were secured, the old garage was demolished, the area leveled and the trenches for the footings prepared. Construction of the forms is just about completed. During these processes the younger Sisters have had the opportunity to learn many new skills under the direction of Mr. Stevens, our project manager.

And let's take a moment to interject here, once again thanking all those who have contributed to this enterprise. We want you to know that besides praying daily for our benefactors, we include all of you and your intentions in three special Masses offered in honor of the Holy Ghost, the Blessed Virgin, and St. Joseph every month!



Sr. Maria Bosco shrink-wraps books while Sr. Phoebe works on packaging an order.

Meanwhile, when the postulants and novices are not working on construction, they spend much of their time helping at Mary Immaculate Queen Center. What exactly does that mean? For the sake of those who have never been to Mount St. Michael, here is a bit of explanation.

In the main building at the Mount, not far from the entrance, there is a religious goods gift shop and bookstore. This is the face of Mary Immaculate Queen Center for the parishioners, and visitors from the surrounding area. However, across the courtyard and the parking lot is another smaller building which formerly housed the Jesuits' laundry and bakery. The laundry area has been converted into a print shop, and the bakery area has become a mail order house.

At one time, the Sisters operated two-color offset presses. Now, of course, most of our printing is done on digital printers which simplifies the process considerably. Next to our press room we have a bindery room where the printed sheets are cut, folded, stapled, trimmed, and bound to produce many of the leaflets, pamphlets and booklets that we sell, as well as this newsletter. Postulants are trained in the operation of all the equipment in the bindery. They also learn to fill out the paperwork for each job. Upstairs on this side of the building is a large workroom where a group can tackle any large projects, including mailings. Like the mailing of this newsletter for example. Or the *Reign of Mary* magazine. Other jobs that also take place in this area include uploading Sunday sermons each week to the parish website ([stmichaels.org](http://stmichaels.org)), indexing articles from the *Reign of Mary*, some computer layout, laminating and shrink-wrapping.

On the other side of the upstairs part of the building is a stockroom where most of the religious items are kept. The books



As you can see, work is progressing on our Novitiate Chapel Building project, with the Sisters helping where they can. Donations are still needed and are much appreciated!



Christmas decorating is a group effort in a building the size of Mount St. Michael.



From youngest to oldest each Sister approaches to kiss the feet of the Infant Jesus while special devotions are read.



Stir-frying up a storm: everyone gets a turn in the kitchen during the Christmas holidays.



Rev. Mother gives a spiritual talk to start out our "Family Day" during Christmas time while all the missionaries are home.



Our budding violinists share their talent with some Christmas tunes for our enjoyment. (The acoustics in the hall are wonderful!)



The celebration for Rev. Mother Mary Agnes' feastday began with a living rosary during which each Sister offered a rose to Our Lady while reciting the Hail Mary.



Students from several of our schools participated in the "Battle of the Books" during Catholic Schools week.



"...and unto dust thou shalt return." The somber opening of the penitential season of Lent turns our thoughts towards our final end.



Rev. Mother and Sisters from our Wayne, Michigan, and Olathe, Colorado, missions with former student, Maddie Kraus, as she graduates from Nursing School.



"Heart-cher-y" Games at St. Joseph's Academy in Wayne, Michigan, in honor of St. Valentine.



Can't let all that gorgeous snow go to waste! Let's take the children sledding!



Epiphany gift exchange at Holy Guardian Angels school in Olathe, Colorado.



Sister leads the parish Christmas Carol sing-along at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in New Hampshire.



A "Thank You" photo for the Sister who sent these bells and other musical instruments.



These four young ladies from Michigan were among our sixteen guests for Vocations Weekend.



Sister looks on as students make feast-day cards for Fr. Gabriel Lavery.



Wrapt little students listen to Sr. Maria Kazimiera's explanation of catechism.



Weekly theology class for the younger Sisters taught by Fr. Casimir Maria, CMRI.



Sister helps students at St. Philomena Academy, Middleville, Michigan to frost cookies of their State.



Sr. Mary Agatha instructs Sr. Maria Bosco and Sr. Noel Marie on how to print envelopes.



Sr. Maria is very focused as she sets up a job on the electric cutter.



Four steps in pamphlet production: Sr. Dymphna Marie collates the covers, Sr. Virginia folds the pamphlets, Abigail staples them and Sr. Gertrude Marie makes the final trim.

have their home on the main floor, next door to the room where the actual packaging takes place. The postulants learn their way around the maze of the stockroom locating the items for each order. Then the products are taken downstairs where they are double checked and packaged.

As the postulants take their next step in the religious life and become novices, they help to train the incoming postulants in the various duties at Mary Immaculate Queen Center. This serves the purpose of teaching



A most helpful, but also most temperamental piece of equipment, the Baumfolder, which can fold sheets of paper very rapidly — and noisily. (Maybe it should be called the “Bombfolder”?)

them the history of the Congregation, which started with the objective of spreading the Fatima message by distributing Catholic literature. Additionally, it provides a workplace that is somewhat secluded from the traffic and bustle that are inherent in the running of a school, parish and historical building. Working at the Center also affords the young Sister an opportunity to participate in the apostolic work of the Congregation even during the year of her canonical novitiate, the time of her training in religious life and spirit. And finally, she will learn various skills which will serve her no matter what duties she may be assigned in the future.

The veteran Sisters who work at the Center do the layout and printing, manage the online and actual stores, handle the finances, coordinate mailings, order the stock and oversee the filling of orders.

And all together, those who have worked here for decades, and those who entered last week, strive to offer our daily labors in union with Mary for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. Heaven, after all, is the real reason for everything we do. Heaven for us, and for you.

## Calendar

March	4	Sr. Maria Kazimiera's feastday
	6-8	Vocations' Weekend
	9	Mother Mary Dominica's feastday
	19	Feast of St. Joseph Sr. Mary Josephine's feastday
April	6	Sr. Mary Julianna's feastday
	28	Feast of St. Louis Marie de Montfort Sr. Louise Marie's feastday; begin preparation for renewal of Total Consecration to Mary
May	12	Sr. Mary Imelda's feastday
	15	Sr. Dymphna Marie's feastday
	20	Sr. Bernardine Marie's feastday
	25	Sr. Madeleine Marie's feastday
	30	Sr. Marie Janae's feastday
June	1	Feast of the Queenship BVM ( <i>transferred</i> ) Titular Feast of CMRI Renewal of Total Consecration Sr. Maria Regina's feastday Sr. Mary Angela's feastday
	12	Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Sr. Corinne Marie's feastday
	13	Sr. Mary Antoinette's feastday
	22-26	Sisters' Annual Retreat
	27	Feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help; Sisters' vows ceremonies
	29	Sr. Mary Petra's feastday
	30	Sr. Mary Paula's feastday



## Our Apostolate of Prayer

Are you or someone you love in need of special prayers? Send your intentions to the Sisters to be remembered in our daily prayers, Masses and good works.

*Anima Mariae* is the free quarterly newsletter of the CMRI Sisters.

To join our mailing list, or to send comments, questions, prayer intentions or donations, please write or email:

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