

Benedictine Sisters of Boerne St. Scholastica Monastery



Annual Giving Campaign - Fall 2024

Dear Faithful Friends,

The Sisters and I hope you and your loved ones are well as we transition into the fall season. We want to thank all of you who contributed to last year's Annual Giving Campaign. Your generosity provided almost \$74,000 for our healthcare needs and monastery operations! Your support means so much!

Last month brought significant changes to our Benedictine Community and our work that will impact us both now and in the future. Sister Mary Louise "Mary Lou" Hernandez, OSB passed away in mid-August at the age of 97. She was ready to depart this earthly life and is now at peace in her eternal home. In late August, we announced the closing of the Omega Retreat Center at the end of June 2025. This was a very difficult decision for us.

I have been reflecting on Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 "To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven ..." I can't help but embrace God's divine wisdom and rhythm of timing for all things. As Benedictines, we *listen with the ears of our hearts*, accepting God's perfect timing, not ours.

As our long-range plans continue to unfold, we invite you to continue your faithful walk with us as we go forth. We remain committed to aging in place at St. Scholastica Monastery. We will continue to operate the Health and Wholeness Center and Sisters' Attic Thrift Store ministries in Boerne, and our Caridad de Corazón ministry in Eagle Pass and our Corporate Responsibility ministry in San Antonio. These ministries are sustained with the help of our dedicated co-ministers, members, and supporters. And our Oblate Program remains strong thanks to our devoted Oblate Leadership Team and our 100+ Oblates. **As we strive to continue our important work in these communities, we hope you will consider a gift for our Annual Giving Campaign.**

The priorities for this year's Campaign, as in recent years, are for the ongoing healthcare needs of the Sisters and operations at St. Scholastica Monastery. **Our projected budget for healthcare this year is \$275,000 and the budgeted cost to keep the monastery running is over \$300,000!** With your help, we can continue to provide for the healthcare needs of our Sisters and sustain operations for the monastery. Your tax-deductible gift of any amount would be a blessing for us all!

Whether you are a new donor or long-time giving partner, we need and value your support. **You bring us joy and a hopeful future.**

Wishing you peace and many blessings throughout the seasons of your life ~

With the Sisters' and my prayers and loving gratitude,

Sister Bernadine Reyes, OSB

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Please use the enclosed envelope or make your gift online at www.boernebenedictines.org - Thank you!