



# Angel Whispers

*Benedictine Sisters of Clear Creek*

*Spring 2013*

*"Domine, bonum est nos hic esse..."*  
*("Lord, it is good for us to be here...")*

Dear Family and Friends of the Clear Creek Sisters,

This is not Mount Tabor, but it is very good for us to be here. In our last Newsletter we told you about the big move from the former convent to this big log cabin. It is a beautiful cabin, and we are so blessed to have the monks' first Oratory – the once-upon-a-time horse barn. Just as our Father Abbot Anderson said the last Mass in our oratory of the convent, so too he celebrated the first Mass in our "new" Oratory. That was in November 2012.

Our new location, just a mile from the previous residence, is affording us much more of a contemplative setting. We are more isolated from the road, we are within the monastery gates, surrounded by fields and trees, overlooking Clear Creek. Thanks to two very thoughtful, generous and talented benefactors, we have a beautiful wrought iron gate at the foot of the steps going up to the front yard of the Priory.

We moved in early November 2012 – and it has taken us some months to get settled, making sure, as the saying goes, "there is a place for everything and everything in its place."

In December our good friend, Rev. Father Chad Ripperger, FSSP, gave us a most inspiring and uplifting Retreat. After our annual Retreat, we focused on Advent and preparing for Christmas. We believe it was most fitting that we had our first Christmas in a "Bethlehem" environment.

On January 1, 2013 - to start off the year we welcomed the monks to our new parlor for the annual "St. Benedict – St. Scholastica meeting," i.e., recreation. It was a wonderful gathering – something we look forward to with much joy each year.

Before we knew it, it was the annual Work Day at Clear Creek. It was a cold, windy Oklahoma winter day, even though it was on March 2, 2013. It was appropriate that we had a big, roaring fire going all day – the young men kept the fire burning by vigilantly feeding it with large logs. Thus, our many volunteers could warm themselves by the fire periodically and during lunch. So many chores were accomplished in a day due to the hard work by friends from around Clear Creek and also from Tulsa and yes, from Lincoln, Nebraska and Dallas, Texas. We send our prayerful gratitude to all of you who worked so hard for us.



*2012 Nativity Scene*

Lent arrived early this year. Due to a relatively warm winter, the daffodils were in bloom in great abundance – the many birds that frequent the trees were busy chirping with spring joy. We hope our former humming birds will find their way to our new location.

Many of you know that on the feast of the Queenship of Mary (formerly, the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary) Bishop Slattery officially established us as a Public Association of the Faithful. Thus, we have set the feast of Our Lady of Fatima, May 13, 2013, as the official Inauguration day. Bishop Slattery will celebrate Mass in our Oratory at 10:00 a.m., followed by an Open House of the Priory and a Reception. At the end of the day, we will be formally enclosed.



*January 1st - St. Benedict/Scholastica annual recreation with monks.*



Our friend Tommy Emig designed, built and then mounted this beautiful gate at the priory's entrance with the help of Mark Wheeler who painted and then mounted it with him.

Enclosure and stability realize our separation from the world: thanks to the enclosure, the world does not reach us; thanks to stability we do not go to it... Stability is a mark of Benedictinism, and we hold to it as to a family possession. We are free and at home only in our cloister, and we should love it as the surety of our vocation itself ... nuns enjoy the ideal monastic enclosure, the privilege in its entirety... instead of finding reasons for leaving enclosure, seek means not to leave it... in our hearts (we) keep a love of enclosure. "

"...we have no reason to meddle with apostolic works, social questions, or politics. St. Benedict has bidden us only employ the tools of spiritual craft, and these in the cloister. "

(Commentary on the Holy Rule by Dom Paul Delatte)



Our Oratory decorated for Easter.



Work Day 2013

It is to this ideal that we Benedictine Sisters of Clear Creek aspire to live, and we are confident it will be much easier for us to do so in our new surroundings.

As always, we never forget you in our daily prayers and sacrifices, and we pray in gratitude for all you do for us in so many countless ways. May you have a blessed Eastertide and many Gifts of the Holy Ghost at Pentecost.

In Conspectu Angelorum,

*Sr. Annuntiata*  
Sister Annuntiata, Prioress



BENEDICTINE SISTERS  
OF CLEAR CREEK

We are a community of contemplative women, who live according to the Rule of St. Benedict, as Benedictine Sisters of Clear Creek Abbey. We are a Public Association of the Faithful in the diocese of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Our vocation is to consecrate ourselves to God alone, by means of constant prayer and joyful penance, in solitude and silence, all for the greater glory of God and for the salvation of souls and the sanctification of our brother monks and all priests.

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