

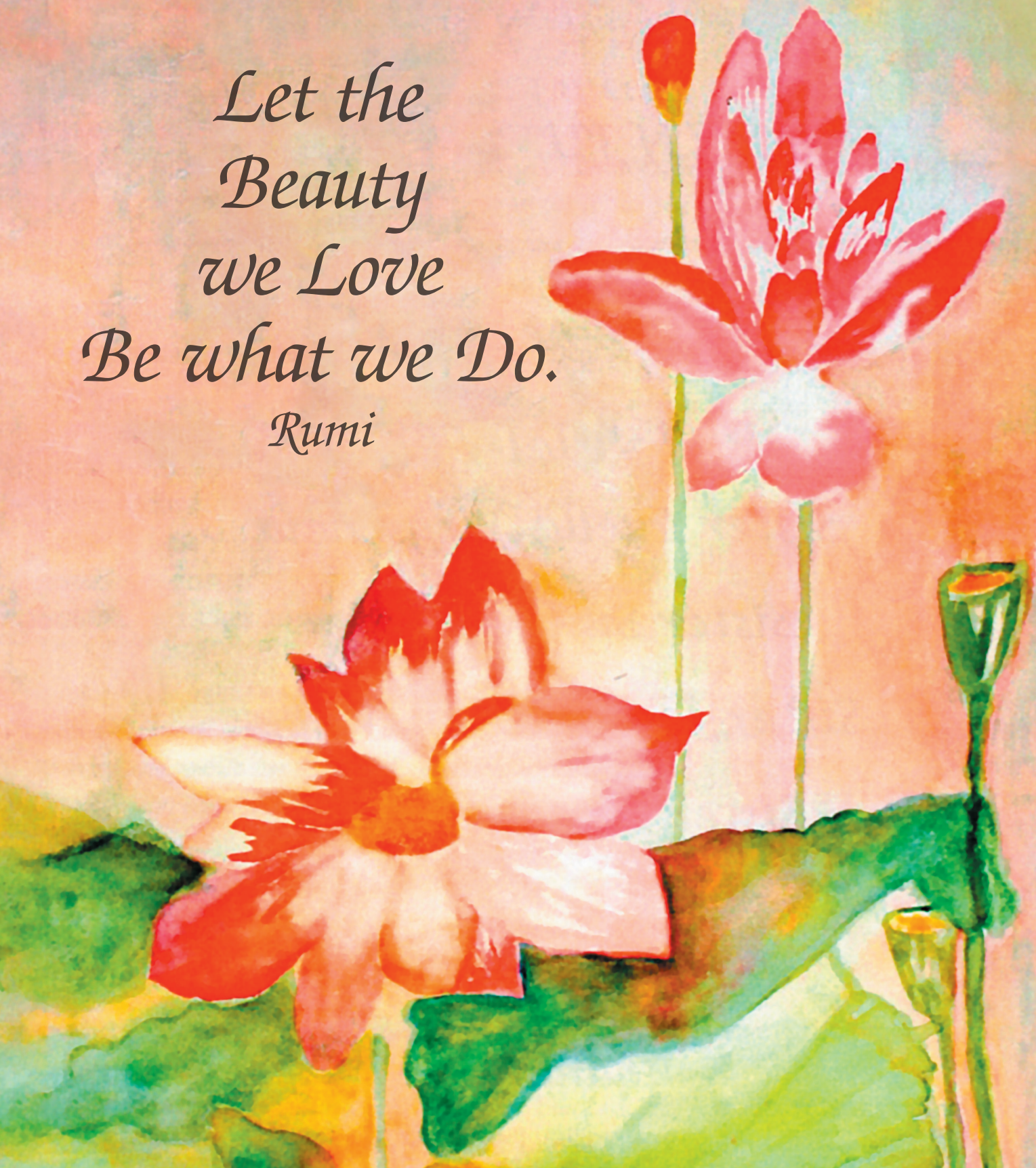


Benedictine Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

*Let the
Beauty
we Love
Be what we Do.*

Rumi





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Dear Friends of the Monastery,

This year’s annual report comes to you with gratitude and excitement. I am pleased to share that we have officially moved into our new home. This project came to fruition, and now blesses us each day because of your support. We are forever grateful to our friends, donors, volunteers, and employees for supporting the Sisters so that we can continue our ministry during this challenging yet rewarding time.

We are eager to show you our new space. In May we got a jump-start as we celebrated our loyal volunteers with a special dinner, awards ceremony, and a tour of our new space. It was a commemorative evening filled with joy and exuberant conversation as our last volunteer appreciation event was in 2019 because of the global pandemic. This fiscal year our volunteers recorded more than 2,000 hours of service to the Community. We are blessed by their generosity.

We will welcome our donors and friends to our new space for the annual donor Open House on September 24. Invitations will be mailed later this summer.

In August we will celebrate our 80- and 60-year Jubilarians: Sister Johnetta Maher, 80 years, and Sisters Arlene Kleemann, Jeanne Ann Weber, Luella Wegscheid, Renata Liegey, and Sue Fortier, 60 years. Their profiles are featured in the following pages. Our beloved and dearly missed +Sister Judith Ann Oland also would have celebrated her 60-year Jubilee. In her honor we have featured one of her beautiful watercolors on the front page of this year’s annual report. She was a talented artist, remarkable friend, and devoted Benedictine. You are forever in our prayers and hearts, Sister Judith Ann.

We are pleased to share our fiscal 2022/2023 report. There were 927 contributions given, including gifts from 66 first time donors, for a total of 279,676.07. And, we successfully conducted our second Matching Gifts Campaign.

Community Support	193,756.47
Retirement.....	11,439.17
Care of Infirm Sisters	18,309.16
Center for Spirituality and Enrichment	5,165.00
McCabe Renewal Center	2,877.68
Vocations/Father John Whitney Evans Fund.....	1,890.00
Twinning Monasteries/St. Scholastica School, Tanzania	28,943.59
Matching Gifts Campaign	17,045.00
Other (designated by donor).....	250.00
Total	\$279,676.07

Blessings and peace,
Sister Beverly
Sister Beverly Raway, Prioress



Sister Beverly Raway

“Wherever you stand, be the soul of that place.” ~ Rumi

Sister Johnetta Maher, 80 years

by Sister Mary Josephine Torborg

Sister Johnetta, now 100 years old, still enjoys life at the Monastery. She grew up in Watersmeet, Michigan. She followed the dream of her life and became a Home Economics teacher while she attended The College of St. Scholastica in Duluth. She loved college life and at the same time was drawn to the Benedictine way of life which she saw exemplified in the faculty who taught her. In her sophomore year she entered the Benedictine Community and continued her studies toward her degree in Home Economics.

Sister Johnetta taught Home Economics at Stanbrook Hall and Cathedral High Schools in Duluth. She then taught Home Economics at The College of St. Scholastica for thirty-three years as an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department. She also



Sister Johnetta Maher

served as Chair of the Behavioral Arts and Science Division for eight years. One of her great accomplishments was the planning and introduction of the Early Childhood Family Education License program. St. Scholastica was one of the first institutions to receive licensure for this program in Minnesota. As a result of this work, she received the Burlington Northern Achievement Award.

After retiring from the College, she became coordinator of events in the Monastery Dining Room and oversaw the Heritage Room, a collection of antiques and works of art. In her spare time, she enjoyed crocheting baby Afghans and making yarn kittens for the Christmas Sale. She still enjoys playing a good game of Rummy. She remarked recently, "You are only as old as you feel you are."

Sister Arlene Kleemann – 60 Years

by Sister Therese Carson

In 2021, Sister Arlene summed up her life: "God has gifted us with undeserved and infinite love, unlimited mercy, our very existence. It is all a gift. It is how God loves us. It is how we must love the world."

Born and raised in Chicago with her older brother, Sister Arlene became acquainted with the Benedictine Sisters who taught at St. Timothy Parochial School. Each summer she would visit the Sisters in their Chicago convent, and over time developed warm friendships with them. At age 14 she and other students traveled by train to visit the Priory of St. Scholastica in Duluth, where she was awed by its beauty and tranquility. After high school graduation in 1961, she entered the Community as a postulant. "My friendships with the Sisters brought me to Duluth, but it was my growing prayer life that made me stay."

She majored in Elementary Education at The College of St. Scholastica and taught at St. James School in



Sister Arlene Kleemann

Duluth for seven years, before being sent to Chicago to her home parish. She taught in the same rooms where she had once been an eager student. Eventually she and Sister Margaret Ann Glaudel (formerly Sister Lois Ann) began teaching at a Catholic academy in an impoverished neighborhood near the Loop, where most of the students are immigrant children from Africa. She also helped funnel donated household goods to the

families. "We help them realize they are welcomed and loved. Though mostly non-Catholic, the children love saying their prayers with us in the morning, at meals, and when anyone in their families is sick. I love it all, but the last part is so important. Prayer builds community."

Sister Arlene and Sister Margaret Ann have said goodbye to their beloved Chicago and will return to Duluth this summer. We welcome them home, where they will be a blessing to the Community.

Sister Luella Wegscheid – 60 Years

by Sister Luella Wegscheid

As I reflect on the occasion of the 60th Jubilee of my monastic profession, I consider the marvelous graces and blessings that have been mine. I am grateful for the strong Catholic upbringing and the lessons taught to me in how to be responsible. My parents and my siblings all had a part in this training. After my grade school years, I went to a Catholic boarding school which was a new experience and my first time being away from home. It was a true learning experience for which I am grateful.

After high school when I entered St. Scholastica Monastery, I experienced many blessings in an entirely new situation. I am grateful for the guidance of the individuals who were my formation directors. They helped me to smooth the rough edges and taught me many new ways of relating.



Sister Luella Wegscheid

As well, it has been a wonderful experience to meet and learn from so many different Sisters. My varied work experiences have continued this process of learning that has resulted in countless blessings of working with so many great people as well as countless unexpected graces. There are too many graces and blessings to enumerate here.

I thank God every day for the gift of my vocation and for the graces I have received. It would not have been possible to deal with the many challenges of living this life of dedication which I love. I thank my family, my friends, and the many wonderful people I have met who have made my life so rewarding. My prayer for all of you is that you receive the graces needed to live your life to the fullest. May we always remember that God loves us and is with us each day! *PEACE!*

Sister Sue Fortier – 60 Years

by Sister Sue Fortier

I was born during the month of independence when the sun was rising and flowers were coloring the earth, beautiful. My mother told me I immediately wanted to eat. So began my life's journey on that warm summer day. My hunger for God, beauty, meaning, freedom, and love became the driving force in my life and put me on a path that has led me to this Jubilee year.

I grew up in North Minneapolis in a vivacious family of three sisters, two brothers, a nonconventional French father, and an Irish mother. Beyond our back yard was an open field of wildflowers where God came alive to me through beauty. It was the beauty I experienced while vacationing with my family on the North Shore that lured me to Duluth.



Sister Sue Fortier

Here I entered our Benedictine Community along with 29 enthusiastic and idealistic young women.

My life as a Benedictine Woman has been rich. I became known as Sister Pacelli, a name nobody could pronounce. As with any commitment I have been shaped through the joys, sorrows, and challenges that have faced me. I have been privileged to extend God's healing love as a chaplain at St. Mary's Medical Center, to teach children at Morgan Park,

International Falls, South St. Paul, and Mahtomedi. Along with my family, friendships with people of all ages, walks of life, and spiritual backgrounds have played an integral and meaningful part in my life. Both in heaven and on earth, they continue to color my life with their presence, and I hold them in love and gratitude as I celebrate my Diamond Jubilee.

Sister Jeanne Ann Weber, 60 Years

by Sister Jeanne Ann Weber

I grew up in North Minneapolis, the oldest of five children, and attended St. Bridget's School which was staffed by Benedictine Sisters from Duluth. I have many happy memories of friends, family, school days, and our neighborhood. After high school, I entered St. Scholastica Priory where I took formation classes, college classes, made new friends, and learned about the Benedictine way of life. During the 1960s I was a part of both the old and new Church – the Vatican II church. These were times of great changes in the Church, religious life, and society at large.



Sister Jeanne Ann Weber

I appreciate the beauty of nature in our area. There I feel connected with God, others, and our whole cosmos. I like music, reading, and lectures/workshops, and there are many opportunities for enrichment on our campus and in Duluth. I am renewed through personal and Community prayer, and God's compassionate love for me, for all. I am blessed by the rhythm and life of this Community. I am also blessed by family and friends and by the many opportunities and experiences that I have had. I had no idea of the amazing path that would unfold on this graced journey of Benedictine life with its sorrows, joys, and transformations.

Sister Renata Liegey, 60 Years

by Theresa Butler, Development/Public Relations Administrative Assistant

Sister Renata Liegey has lived a life of faith, kindness, creativity, and passion as a Benedictine Sister. Born Margaret Louise (Peggy Lou) in 1932 in Karthus, Pennsylvania, she grew up in a devout Catholic family. Early in her life, she developed a passion for art, and after high school attended art classes in New York. For health reasons she was advised to go to Arizona for the winter and stayed in Phoenix for ten years, working as an X-ray technologist and studying with a sculptor. Drawn to the Duluth Benedictines by their devotion to the Eucharist and Divine Office, she professed first vows in 1963 and final vows in 1966, taking the name Sister Renata which means "reborn." She earned her bachelor's degree in art at The College of St. Scholastica.

She returned to Phoenix, where she lived with her Sisters at St. Thomas the Apostle Convent, and taught art at Gerard High School. Returning to Minnesota, she helped form House of Peace, an ecumenical house of prayer in Winton, Minnesota.



Sister Renata Liegey

She was next sent to St. Gertrude's School in Washington, D.C. to teach arts and crafts to developmentally challenged girls. She recalled, "This precious ministry, the memory of which I'll always cherish, lasted some 18 years."

Following her time in Washington, D.C., Sister Renata spent two years at the Franciscan Center of Wholistic Living in Saint Paul, Minnesota and studied at the Minneapolis School of Massage and Body

Work, becoming a certified massage therapist as well as a T'ai Chi Chih (TCC) instructor. For the next 20 years she ran her own business called Tranquil Touch and provided services at WomanWell to religious women from all parts of the globe who were taking part in sabbatical programs.

In 2010, Sister Renata returned to the Monastery and continued in a variety of ministries including spiritual direction, teaching Ta'i Chi Chih classes at McCabe and the Monastery, and prayer ministry. She once said, "I gratefully give praise to God, whose Spirit continues to animate and guide me along my journey."

COVENANT PEOPLE



"Covenant People" is the name of the recognition society that honors those individuals who have included the Benedictine Sisters Benevolent Association in estate plans by naming it as a beneficiary of their will, life insurance policy or charitable trust. The recognition society also includes names of people who have given the Monastery major lifetime gifts since the beginning of the Development Office in 1989. Covenant People names are inscribed in a book in the Eucharistic Chapel in Our Lady Queen of Chapel and on the donor recognition board in the Monastery entry.

+Margaret M. Adams
Judith Ahlstrom
+Rev. Vincent H. Arimond
+Eileen Baldeshwiler
Micki & Tom Bell
+Patricia Berres
William & +Jeanine (Betty) Beutel
+Rose M. Bjork
+Lisa S. Borelli
+Father Thomas Bouchard
Deborah Anne Broocker
George T. Brown & Kathleen M. O'Grady-Brown
+ Eileen Burgess
Carrie J. Butorac
Terry Butorac
+ Harvey & +Florence Cherro
James & Judith Cherveney
+Lois W. Clausen
Dr. John C. Clauss, Jr.
+Bernadette Coffey
+Anne T. Connolly
+Father James S. Crossman
Margaret L. Cruikshank
+Bernard Cunningham
+Elizabeth R. Davis
Rita & +Bill Denny
George Deziel Foundation
+Richard Deziel, Sr.
+Father John P. Doran
+Marguerite C. Doran
Christopher & Britt Dougall
+Helen J. Dragavon
Curt Dunnavan
+Helen M. Eisel
+Gretchen Eldien
+Dorothy E. Engler
+Father John Whitney Evans

Kathy & Lynn Fettig
+Dolores Marie Gaida
+Denis Goblirsch
+Mariana Elsenpeter Goodwin
+Marie L. Greco
Kathie Gregorich
+Frank & +Frances Gruden Family
+Marian E. Haij
+John J. Hallinan
+Marjorie Hallinan
+Andrea Hammann
Margaret Mary Hartney
+Mrs. Fredrick Havdal
+Father James M. Hayden
+Msgr. Michael J. Hogan
+Lucille Hood
Mary Kay Hovanec-Johnson & Dr. Todd Johnson
+Roy & Mary Hudson
Paige Jensen
Sybil & Robert C. Johnson
+Lynne M. Johnston
+Joseph, +Julia, and Tad Kasper
Diane M. Kessler
Chris Ketelsen
+Edna Kirby
Patricia H. Klauck
Roland "Bud" Klein
Shalom Kropfl
Lois M. Kushner-Hewitt
+Patricia Maloney Kwaterski
+Alfred & +Otto Landsteiner
Julie M. & Donald P. Larson
+Joseph C. Linck
+Mary Jane Lindley
Mr. & Mrs. Richard T. Lorenz, Jr.
+Annabelle Mary Lounsberry

The Donald D. Lynch Foundation
Daniel R. & Cynthia L. Malinski
+Genevieve L. Malmquist
+Miriam P. Manning
+Mr. & +Mrs. Patrick Marcella
Lucy R. McAdams
Marian McCarty
Dr. Charles B. & Elizabeth H. McGough
+Harry B. McQuat
+Ted & +Bernice Meyer
Doris A. Milewski
+Lawrence T. & +Geneva M. Moellers
John & Ann (Lewis) Molinaro
Barbara Gherty Moore
Dr. Joseph & +Alice Mottillo
+Father Cornelius A. Moynihan
Mary Murphy
+Mary M. Murphy
+Edward R. Nacey
+M. Bernadette Nicol
+George Noble and Kathryn Noble
+Joe Nowak
+Mary Elizabeth O'Brien
+Father Frank Perkovich
David & Laura Perry
Margaret A. Peterson
Nancy L. Petroske
Marlene J. Pinten
+Msgr. Bernard Popesh
Judith Poquette
+Mary Quinlivan
Ray & Darlene Radzak
Roger and Kathy Rigterink
Katie & Edward Roeger
Natchana Nimnoradee Roehl
+Robert Roehl

+Catherine B. Rubbo
+George Rumreich
Joseph W. Rust
+Robert & +Katherine Scheuer
+Carolyn B. Schmidt
Msgr. Geo. M. Schroeder
+Ottilia Schubert
Dolores & +Charles Seashore
+Diana Trowbridge Shibler
+Frank J. Sitter
+Mary D. St. Marie
+Helen Stockton
+Ann Stoegbauer
+Nancy Nordal Strom
Dore & +Bill Stubenvoll
+Mr. & +Mrs. George Tautges
+Rosalie Thompson
+Peter J. Thornton
Mary Ellen Thurman
+Mildred & +George Velonis
The Harold & Lorraine (Deziel) Weber Family
+Nancy L. Weiss
+Lucille Weber Welhouse
+F.T. & +Florence Westmeyer
+Ralph & +Mary Wilkens
Tomas & Nancy Willette
+Juanita G. Williams
Corrine Windus-Howard
Winnifred Winkelman
+Julius F. Wolff, Jr.
Ann Starkey Wright
Steve & Adele Yorde
+William H. Zobbi
Keith Zumbrunnen & Katherine Marnich-Zumbrunnen

To all who make contributions, we live and grow because of you.



Your Giving

Charitable contributions to St. Scholastica Monastery strengthen and enhance the lives of our Sisters and support our ministry work. Sisters serve in spiritual direction, community outreach, education, health care, peace and justice, governance, renewal and retreat outreach, creative arts and sponsorship.

Donors often designate a special purpose for their gift or make a gift in memory of a loved one.

Consider naming the Sisters as a beneficiary of an IRA, life insurance policy, charitable gift annuity, property, or in your will or trust.

Talk with us about these giving opportunities and other tax-wise strategies.

Charitable Bequests

While planning for your future and after taking care of your family, we invite you to consider a bequest to the Sisters which will offer a valuable tax savings.

Charitable bequests are easy gifts to make and can be given in any dollar amount. If you would like to designate the Sisters in your will or trust please talk to your plan administrator and let us know that you have. A donor who designates the Sisters in their will, trust or insurance policy is recognized as a Covenant Donor. Covenant Donors names are inscribed in a book in the Eucharistic Chapel in Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel and on our donor recognition board in the Monastery entry. Please contact us for more information or questions about how you wish the Sisters to administer and fulfill your bequests.

If you would like more information please contact Jan M. Barrett, Development and Public Relations Director, at janbarrett@duluthosb.org and 218.723.6540

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MISSION

We, the Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery, Duluth, Minnesota, are monastic women who seek God in community through a life of prayer and work. Living in accordance with the Gospel and the Rule of St. Benedict, we respond to the needs of the Church and the world through our ministries.

Donations to the Monastery provide funds allowing Sisters to continue various missions and the opportunity to do beautiful work. Thank you for helping the Sisters serve in the following ministries:

Administration

Advocacy

Architecture

Creative Arts

(art, writing, photography,
icon writing)

Development Ministry

Education

Governance

Hospitality

Health Care

Maintenance of gardens/
woodland

Music

Office and Secretarial Ministry

Pastoral Care

Peace and Justice Ministry

Photography

Public Speaking

Prayer Ministry

Renewal/Retreat Ministry

Spiritual Direction Ministry

Sponsorship

Telephone Ministry

Vocation Ministry