

The Gatekeeper

St. Scholastica Monastery Fort Smith, Arkansas

Volume 1, Issue 1

June 2007

Listen My Daughter...

This is our first newsletter in quite some time. This newsletter is a once a month publication from the vocation office here at St. Scholastica Monastery. This will allow us to stay in better contact with all of you who are in contract with us and in some facet of discernment.

The vocation department will happily accept questions and or notes of interest that you may want to contribute, to the news letter. We just ask that you let us know before the end of each month so it can make publication.

Each month there will be a vocation calendar that will accompany the newsletter.

Included in this newsletter is an article called, "How do I know if I have a religious vocation" that was published in our *Horizons*, and *Arkansas Catholic*.

'Listen my daughter with the ear of your heart' (RB 80)

How does one listen with the ear of the heart? As vocation director, I want to ask, what do you think about when you hear the word discernment? Webster tells us that it means "*the quality of being able to grasp and comprehend what is obscure; skill*

in discerning". Other terms might include acumen, insight and the like. For me, Listening with the ear of one's heart is holy discernment at its best!

What is your insight to the possible call that you are experiencing? How have you found yourself looking at the world and situations around you as you determine what seemingly fits or does not?



What is it that you are keenly aware of as you look at the Benedictine life of St. Scholastica? Might you be able to name for yourself what it is about the Sisters of Fort Smith that calls you to seek God with us? Think about God's acumen in your life.

**Listen My Daughter ..
Come and See Week July 26-30, 2007**

Spend time in the quiet and let your heart speak. How is God calling you to be a daughter who holds a listening heart?

*'Listen my daughter
with the ear of your
heart'*



Special points of interest:

- July 26-30 Consider Your Call Summer Discernment Week Retreat
- Observership Program now accepting applications for interested women
- Professions happen this month for Sister Pat Bolling and Sister Cecelia Marie Brickell
- Online Chat every Tuesday night at 7:00 and on Sunday's from 3:30-4:30
- Come and See Weekends: Anytime!

Inside this issue:

Majestic Monastics, Monastery Mus-	2
Vocation Dept. The Gate Keeper	2
Monastery Moments I	2
How do I know If I have a vocation?	3
Musings	4

Vocation Department: The Gate Keeper

Many of our vocation efforts are about keeping in touch with those who inquire about the community and about becoming a sister. One of the best ways we do this is via the internet, telecommunications, and just plain personal contact. Our world is tremen-

dously global and it is hard for people to know about our way of life today; therefore, the search to answer the call often begins with the seeker: you. One feels the call but where does one begin to answer that call? Technology, even with all its flaws, has

allowed us to encounter religious life in a completely new way and sometimes this may feel a bit impersonal if we let it. This brings us to see how communities are now actively working within the mainframe of vocations to make our connections more personal.

(Continued on page 2)

*Monastic Word of
the Month: Humility*