

The ALUMNATOR



St. Scholastica Alumnae Association

P.O. Box 493 • Fort Smith, Arkansas 72902

Alumnae Reunion 2024

by Dorothy Worner Sullivan, Alumnae Co-chair, Class of 1960

“Recall to mind events long past. Share the memories in your heart. Treasure them for endless ages.”

These words appear each reunion on the printed program for our Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy.

This says it all as we continue to gather each year.

This past September 21st and 22nd were fun times for gathering, remembering and catching up. I personally love that we ALL enjoy being together whether our classmates or others. We all share a common bond.

The reunion began Saturday morning with registration at the St. Anne’s Building on the campus of Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Smith.

At noon we enjoyed a beautiful catered lunch followed by a business meeting at St. Anne’s. We acknowledged the classes (Continued on page 2)

Annual Bake Sale



(Continued on page 6)

Reunion (Continued from page 1)

present starting with the earliest graduate present, Janelle Knoedel Lazzo, a 1951 graduate, celebrating her 73rd anniversary. The next earliest were Rosemary Ahlert Lelemsis and Lona Geels Seiter, class of 1953, followed by Wilma Wewers Ahlert and Rebecca Wiederkehr, class of 1954. The largest attendance was class of 1964, 10 attended, celebrating their 60th anniversary.

During the meeting Sister Madeline Bariola, our Alumnae moderator, was celebrating 70 years of her monastic profession. We announced that we would have a tree of her choice planted on the Monastery grounds in honor of her years as a Benedictine sister.

Sr. Kimberly Prohaska, Monastery prioress, gave us an update of the Monastery. A columbarium is being constructed and will be also open to the public for their inurnments. She told us of plans for a new sign. The Alumnae had previously promised to help with the cost. The actual cost is to be determined.

A committee is meeting to determine a plan for the space where the former Monastery building stood. Sister Kimberly stated that at the present time no plans have been announced.

That evening we gathered at Taliano's Italian Restaurant for an enjoyable Saturday dinner. Many of the Sisters joined us.

Sunday Mass at the Monastery was celebrated by Fr. Jerome Kodell from Subiaco Abbey. All deceased Alumnae were remembered. The school song was sung as Mass ended. Brunch followed Mass where we enjoyed our final moments of the 2024 gathering.

In all our time of sharing we agreed to continue having a reunion annually. We recognize our numbers will continue to diminish but we agree we are a special group and want to remain close.

Keep In Touch

Alumnae Facebook: St-Scholastica-Alumnae-Association-FSA

Email the Co-Chairs: Dorothy Sullivan at dorothersull1974@gmail.com
or Barbara Anhalt at anhlbt@aol.com

Snail Mail: St. Scholastica Alumnae Assoc. P.O. Box 493, Fort Smith, AR 72902

Monastery Gift Shop: <https://www.stscho.org/secure/giftshop>

Monastery web site: www.stscho.org

Educational Support for Guatemalan Women

The Sisters continue to help with the educational support of young Guatemalan women through G.E.M. Find more information at www.stscho.org

Letter From St. Scholastica Prioress

Dear St. Scholastica Alumnae, February 2025

Here we are on the edge of Mardi Gras and the Lenten Season! We recently celebrated the Feast of St. Scholastica with many of our area religious, deacons, and priests joining us for the liturgy of the hours and Mass and later a light social followed by a festive dinner together. It was a wonderful evening to bring to heart and mind all those who have touched our lives so deeply, including you, our dear St. Scholastica Alumnae.

Since we gathered for the annual reunion last fall, we have been a busy bunch of Benedictines. We hosted the monastery bake sale on December 8, 2024, which was the best yet! Of course, the success is yours, as many of you helped to make it so. It is such a treasure to be with many of you as we prepare for the event, and spending time with you lifts our hearts in gratitude for all that you are to us.



Now, on to some of the things we have been doing! We have the columbarium in place. One section is for the Sisters, and the other is open to the public. In the coming weeks, we will publish a brochure about the columbarium for interested persons who desire to be a part of St. Scholastica in this way.

We are working with Nabholz Company to begin the signage project. We will have a brick-lit digital screen sign on the corner of Albert Pike and Rogers Ave, as well as a smaller solar-lit sign for the main entrance drive. Accompanying those two signs, we will have two non-brick directional signs on the property for the entrance to the monastery and gift shop and one for assisting those for other areas on the property. We anticipate the completion of the signage work in the next four months, if not sooner.

We will collaborate with Dr. Daniel Maher, PhD, from the University of Arkansas Fort Smith, and students as they gather the history and stories of the Benedictine Sisters.

We will begin the project with UAFS in the coming weeks. We are honored and humbled to be a part of this historical and archival project for the college.

Our Oblate program is thriving, and we enjoy our relationship with the Oblates. We meet monthly and invite anyone interested in learning more about the Oblates to contact us. We have a task force committee that is actively working with the Sisters on items from the former monastery that need to be repurposed. We are in the dreaming stages of how we might be able to have an oasis of peace here in the River Valley and beyond.

This is ongoing, and we will let you, our Alumnae, know more about it as we continue our work together.

This past summer, one of the old barns at Hesychia House of Prayer was renovated to make a prayer space for those taking time to renew their spirit and spend time at Hesychia. Through the generosity, hard work, and talent of many, the outdoor space is quite remarkable. We especially thank Oblate Annie Woody for her artwork thread throughout the space. We encourage you to visit Hesychia and see the renewed space created there.

(Continued on Page 4)

Prioress (Continued from Page 3)

Recently, we had the joy of attending two celebrations. One was for the religious in the diocese who are celebrating jubilees, and this celebration was held on February 8th, 2025, at Holy Souls Parish in Little Rock. The Sisters who are celebrating their jubilees this year are Sister Louise Sharum, OSB, for seventy-five years, and Sister Madeline Clifton, OSB, for seventy years of monastic profession.

St. Scholastica Parish, in New Blaine, held a blessing of the renovated church with Bishop Anthony Taylor as presider. Father Mark Stengel, Pastor, of the parish, Father Jerome Kodell, Brother Matthias Hagge, and Brother Francis Kirchner from Subiaco were also in attendance. Sister Madeline Bariola, Sister Dolores Vincent Bauer, Sister Leona Marie Selig, Sister Hildegard Varga, Sister Anita DeSalvo, RSM, and Sister Lisa Atkins, RSM, also joined us for the special day. Happily, we do not have any sisters in the hospital or assisted living facilities; all reside at the monastery or on mission.

This spring, we will have our admission chapter, and we hope to welcome those in the transfer or the later stage of formation to their next steps on the vocation journey. This past December, we welcomed a new affiliate, Juanita Rios, from Missouri. Please continue to pray for the Sisters and those seeking the Benedictine life with us.

As always, we thank you for all the love, care, and support you bless us with here at St. Scholastica. You are genuinely a large part of who we are, and We wish you a blessed Lenten season and a happy Easter.

Affectionately,
Sister Kimberly Rose Prohaska,
OSB St. Scholastica Monastery, Prioress

St. Scho Gift Shop

by Sister Laura

This small area is loaded with dynamic catholic literature.

We have just received many new books, including from our local authors Cackie Upchurch ([Daily Reflections for Easter to Pentecost](#)) and Kimberly Gordon's children's books ([Little Jesus and the Lonely Puppy](#)) exploring the life of Jesus.

We have an extensive collection of books by Sr. Macrina Wiederkehr as well as Sr. Louise Sharum's newest book [On that Day](#). These would be perfectly paired with some monastery creations like cookies, tea, and jam.



And don't forget our assortment of Coffee flavored (sponsored) by your favorite Saints!
St. Valentine (raspberry) and St. Benedict (chocolate) coffee make the perfect gift.

DIGITIZATION UPDATE

You may remember that Fr. Jerome Kodell is working with the people at Arkansas State Archives to digitize publications from St. Scholastica Academy. He reports that the digitization is done and he will be notified when it will be possible to google the site and select a particular resource.

Items include old publications, faculty/student rosters from 1924-1967, yearbooks, ALUMNATORS, and the SCHOLASTICAN school newspaper.

We thank those Scho girls who generously offered their old yearbooks. The yearbooks will be returned when the process is complete and the issues are available online.

We will let you know when you can google Arkansas State Archives and type in *St. Scholastica*. their search engine for selecting a particular resource.

Thank you, Fr. Jerome, for bringing this possibility to us and helping facilitate it!

For your Consideration ...

Tours with Rami

Judy Keller '67 would like to share with fellow Scho girls the situation of a tour guide in the Holy Land. He and his family are not able to leave Palestine and his income has been cut off with the events of the October 6th war. "Tours with Rami" is Facebook available. Videos of his tours are available for purchase. In his videos, Rami documents the footsteps of Jesus in the Holy Land and covers Biblical and Historical facts. For more information, check with Judy at jk6reader@gmail.co, or 314-221-0017.



Alumnae Association Dues Renewal

First	Maiden	Last	Year/Graduated/Attended
Address			
City, State, Zip			
Telephone			E-mail
<input type="checkbox"/> This is a change of address, telephone number or email			
ANNUAL DUES \$10.00			
Donation			
Total Amount			
Thank you for your continuing support of the Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery.			

Please enclose this form with your dues/donation and send to:

ST. SCHOLASTICA ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
 P. O. BOX 493
 FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS 72902

Bake Sale

(Continued from page 1)



ALUMNAE AND SISTERS DEATHS

Mary Celeste Denman Durrum '34	March 12, 2008
Marilyn Mansour Karam '49	December 30, 2020
Imelda Becker Reber '51	July 30, 2021
Rosemary Buss Wilson '51	Mar. 21, 2023
Mary Ann Zeiler Gronwald '51	Jan. 8, 2024
Teresa Skolarski Graves '66	Mar. 1, 2024
Tadea Montalvo Barnes '54	Mar. 5, 2024
Vicki Worden Wardlaw '46	Mar. 7, 2024
Lucy Donberger Biggs '63	Apr. 23, 2024
Sharon Neumeier Weinsinger '63	Apr. 27, 2024
Karen Pachmayr Crossland '62	May 12, 2024
Sister Miriam Hoffman	July 10, 2024
Sandra Lux Hall '65	July 28, 2024
Sister Marcella Schmalz	July 28, 2024
Joan Vonder Heide Roper '62	Aug. 14, 2024
Sister Adrian Wewers '49	Aug. 16, 2024
Elizabeth Schaffer Trotter '60	Aug. 17, 2024
Mary Jane Leding Thornton '49	Oct. 3, 2024
Ormalene Brockman Artho '48	Oct. 18, 2024
Mary Daniels Ashworth '56	Jan. 19, 2025

Jubilarians for 2025

Sister Louise Sharum '49 ... 75 years
Sister Madeline Clifton '52 ... 70 years

Dues, Donations and Reunion by Class

Geraldine White McFarland '43
 Constance Bartsch Eckelhoff '46
 Annamae Weiterer Bell '46
 Magdalen Siebenmorgen Cesare '47
 Genevieve Ehemann Lemley '50
 Catherine Neihouse McVay '50
 Janelle Knoedel Lazzo '51 R
 Bernice Bergup '52
 Lona Geels Seiter '53 R
 Dorothy Huber Barton '53
 Rosemary Ahlert Lelemsis '53 R
 Dolores Raible Stemper '53
 Betty Schwartz Kreutzer '53
 Cynthia Zakes Pitts '53
 Hermina Post Falck '54
 Wilma Wewers Ahlert '54 R
 Rebecca Wiederkehr '54 R
 Carmelita Bergup (Bombeck) Karacic '55
 Margaret Erman Price '55
 Mary Ellen Furstengerg '55
 Mary Geels Koenigseder '55
 Mary Jane Miller Patterson '55
 Patricia Moix '55
 Martha (Marti) Netzer Verfurth '55
 Bernardine Rinke Dalby '55
 Francie Veitenheimer Scheffe '55
 Shirley Williams Jones '55
 Bernice Ardemagni McCauley '56
 Helen Duerr Hays '56
 Alma Lipsmeyer Gipson '56 R
 Theresa M Wewers Boekholder '56
 Marcella Bergup Geiss '57
 Mary K Dalmut Neumeier '57
 Mary Dennis Edwards '57 R
 Mary Anne Elsken Burford '57
 Lillian Geels Kohler '57
 Rosetta Kern Lensing '57 R
 Jane Seibenmorgen Sparkman '57
 Phyllis Wewers Dalmut '57
 Martha (Jane) Biltl Magee '58
 Carmelita Gilyard Adams '58 R
 Rosemary Heinrichs Lestyk '58
 Elsie Hoelting '58
 Elizabeth (Bettye) Intres Spruell '58 R
 Barbara Pirker Greco '58
 Mary Raible Sommer '58
 Jane Ann Anhalt Calvert '59 R
 Patricia Hasler O'Hagan '59
 Kathy Moody Bombela '59
 Adrienne Morsani Graham '59

Sheila Perona Canup '59
 Trenna Post Kremers '59 R
 Mary Jean Schluterman Kiene '59
 Carmelita Vonder Heide Kremers '59
 Alicia Austin '60
 Ann Cooper Childs '60 R
 Annetta Dean Oliver '60 R
 Carole Denault Tilley '60a
 Barbara Ebbing Sax '60
 Margaret Frantz '60 R
 Doris Geels Koch '60 R
 Kay Greve Pope '60
 Paula Havey Bradfield '60
 Mary Hensen Ahlert '60
 Marilyn Rofkahr Zeiler '60
 Shirley Senko '60
 Lucy Vogelpohl Tausinger '60
 Barbara Ware McConnell '60
 Dorothy Worner Sullivan '60 R
 Rosella Zeiler Lasater '60 R
 Kay Bennett Smith '61
 Jeanette Beschoner Kelly '61
 Cathy Corrotto Lorenz '61
 Roselyn Eckart Layes '61
 Mary Ann Hug Geels '61 R
 Milly Martin Wewers '61 R
 Judy Orscheln Wright '61
 Cecilia Ruesewald Ragsdale '61
 Irene Rinke Jones '61
 Rosemary Thomas Wingfield '61
 Pamela Yother Sharum '61
 Theresa Bock Carle '62
 JoAnn Dennis Campbell '62 R
 Carolyn Gangluff Gadberry '62
 Marilyn Gangluff Gunther '62
 Patricia Henson Lucy '62
 Kathleen Keller '62
 Dorothy Oberste Clay '62 R
 Anna Schmitz Mullen '62
 Annette Vogelwohl Knittig '62 R
 Joanita Vonder Heide Roper '62
 Patricia Wewers Reid '62
 Susan Borengasser Ahlert '63
 Nell Gonzalez Hinson '63
 Sharon Neumeier Weinsinger '63
 Mary Risse Devaney '63 R
 Rosemary Weinsinger Harvel '63
 Jo Ann (Joanna) Zimmer Wardein '63
 Mary Cullivan Canterbury '64 R
 Charlotte Eckart Ward '64

Emily Geels Soller '64 R
 Lasonia Gilyard Whitmore '64 R
 Joanie Glenn Stavig '64
 Rita Golwas Self '64
 Janette (Janie) Hilton Dahlem '64 R
 Mary Kennedy Burns '64 R
 Helen (Jo) Liewer Kutil '64
 Betty Lisko Masingale '64
 Mary Meiger Conrad '64 R
 Myrna Ortiz Chensam '64
 Catherine Roesch '64
 Sue Simmons Baber '64
 Katie Strobel Simmons '64 R
 Betty Udouj Pryor '64
 Debbie Wewers Bentley '64 R
 Ramona Willems Keizer-Hornsey '64 R
 Mary Adams Yandell '65 R
 Edna Dean Howard '65 R
 Donna Hoelting Herron '65
 Mary Beth Lux Seaver '65
 JoElla Simmons Newbury '65 R
 Anne Udouj '65
 Viola Hoelting '62-'66
 (Barbara) Jo Musholt Lightfoot '62-'66
 Susan Shaw Barry '66
 Linda Simmons Peters '66
 Mona Zang Wooten '66
 Janie Corrotto Johnston '63-'67
 Carol Blaufuss Oberle '67
 Judy Keller '67
 Alicia Minden '67 R
 Bonnie Ransdell Diefendorf '67
 Marilyn Schlaf Carson '67 R
 Jane Strobel Dugan '67
 Susan Borengasser Gamble '68 R
 Linda Eckart Starling '68
 Sharon Henderson Wilkin '68
 Joyce Hoelting Ratcliff '68
 Lois Kerschen '68
 Joan Knoedel Rodemann '68 R
 Pat Lensing Sprick '68 R
 Suzanne Robben Brown '68
 Susie Strobel Schneider '68
 Phyllis Zeiler Ewing '68
 Rose Zeiler '68
 Christine Borengasser Wheeler '68-'69 R
 Gail Wiederkehr Clark '69
 Helen Zeiler '69a

Fr. Jerome's Homily Reunion 2024

St. Scholastica Alumnae Sept. 22, 2024

Here we are again, 56 years after the closing of St. Scholastica Academy, and still faithful daughters of the Academy have come back to celebrate their heritage. It is a tribute to your appreciation to that heritage, to your respect and love for the Sisters who taught you, and of your continuing friendship and care for one another.

The readings for the Mass today resonate very strongly with that Benedictine heritage. The longest chapter in the Rule of Benedict is on humility, and today Jesus gives us the example of the little child. Benedict speaks of the good zeal, which puts the other first and always seeks the best for the other, and the letter of James warns against jealousy and selfish ambition and envy. These are countercultural values in the heat of political and social discourse these days, but they are countercultural only on the surface. Underneath these values are at the heart of the hopes and desires of the founders of our country and of the bulk of the population today.

As children of Scholastica and Benedict, what can we do? We forget how powerful a faith-filled and disciplined life can be in itself, without a program for national reform. You are here today not because of a national program but because of the influence of a few individuals leading a disciplined life of faith. We can all imitate them in that.

One of the earliest Christian writing is the Letter to Diognetus, written by an unknown Christian writer about 150. It says this about the life of Christians. "Christians are indistinguishable from other people either by nationality, language, or customs. They do not inhabit separate cities of their own, or speak a strange dialect, or follow some outlandish way of life.

And yet there is something extraordinary about their lives. They live in their own countries as though they were only passing through. They play their full role as citizens, but labor under all the disabilities of aliens. They live in the flesh, but they are not governed by the desires of the flesh. They pass their days upon earth, but they are citizens of heaven. Obedient to the laws, they yet live on a level that transcends the law. To speak in general terms, we may say that the Christian is to the world what the soul is to the body."

What is said here about Christians in general can certainly be said of the heirs of Scholastica and Benedict in particular. The world doesn't know us, but it depends on us to exemplify the faith love that are at the heart of human hope.

#

St. Scholastica Alumnae Association Reunion 2025

Save this Reunion Registration Form

Saturday, September 20

10:00 AM - Registration in St. Anne's Building on grounds of Immaculate Conception Church
12:00 Noon - Lunch and General Meeting
6:00 PM - Dinner at Taliano's Italian Restaurant

Sunday, September 21

10:00 AM - Mass in the Monastery Chapel followed by brunch in the Monastery Dining Room
No charge for pre-registered graduates/attendees of St. Scholastica Academy. Guest fees below.

We suggest a registration deadline to help us in planning reunion events. We never turn down last minute registrations and we like that some spontaneously join us when possible. BUT we need to ask last-minute, unregistered attendees to pay the guest fees to help cover the cost of ordering enough food.

Questions? anhlbt@aol.com (479-461-1197) or dorothersull1974@gmail.com (479-414-1952)

-----Detach here and return the form below.-----

SATURDAY and SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20 and 21

REUNION 2025 REGISTRATION FORM

Alumnae attending (no charge):

Luncheon _____ Dinner _____ Mass/Brunch _____

Number of guests attending:

Luncheon (\$15) _____ Dinner (\$25) _____ Mass/Brunch (\$12) _____

Total for Guests: \$ _____ I would like to make a donation: \$ _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

First Name Maiden Name Married/Last Name Yr. Graduate/Attended

Address:

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: September 3

Please Mail Registrations To:
St. Scholastica Alumnae Association
PO Box 493, Fort Smith, AR 72902