

CUTHBERT'S CORACLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ANAMCHARA FELLOWSHIP

FALL/WINTER 2018



ANAMCHARA FELLOWSHIP GATHERING - 2013
GLENDALE, OHIO



ANAMCHARA FELLOWSHIP GATHERING - 2018
DETROIT, MICHIGAN



St. Mary Magdalene Contemplative Service

St. Mary Magdalene is blessed to have religious from three different dispersed religious communities. The communities are St. Patrick Priory of The Anamchara Fellowship, The Community of the Holy Spirit – New York City, and the Brotherhood of St. Gregory.

With the intention of expressing and educating our parish on contemplative prayer, we have begun a six-week mid-week contemplative service to be led by a different facilitator from each dispersed community each week.

Wednesday, October 3rd was our first service. After the conclusion of the service congregants in attendance lingered and discussed the service. Their feedback and gratitude was humbling and we thank God for the opportunity to be a part of this effort to elevate contemplative prayer into the lives of our parishioners.

By Jane DiPaolo



(Photo Above Left)

The Novice Clothing of Sr. Kathleen Clare!!

Calvary Episcopal Church - Batavia, Illinois - October 14, 2018

With L to R: Sr. Sharon Caedmon, Aspirant Diane Manko-Cliff, Sr. Kathleen Clare, Sr. Phyllis Aileen, Br. John Brendan and Fr. Mike Rasicci

The Grief Book Ministry

For those of you who did not know, any member of Anamchara (Professed, Novice, or Companion) may request that the Stephen Ministries' *Journeying through Grief* books be sent to anyone who has recently lost a loved one. Several such requests have been made since Gathering. The books are designed to provide support at four key stages during the first year of grief. The first is sent within 3 weeks after the death. The others are sent 3, 6, and 11 months afterwards. If you know someone you want to receive these books, contact Sr. Patricia Sarah at scottclayton1@msn.com or (301) 523-1006 (cell).





Whitby Priory met at Sisters BJ and Julian's house on August 18th, 2018, since Sister BJ was recovering from knee replacement surgery. Debi Goebel was received as an Aspirant...turning in her Companion medallion.
Pictured Above: is Debi with Brother Carl Gregory and Sister Mark.

**Blessing of the Profession of Sr. Antonia Ruth
 October 14, 2018**

The blessing took place at the morning worship services at Christ the King Episcopal Church in Santa Barbara, CA.

Pictured L to R: Sr. Antonia Ruth and Frank Percival.

Photo Below:

Sr. Josephine Malena and Br. John-Aelred with Bishop Gene Robinson at National Cathedral, October 26, 2018 for the service honoring Matthew Shephard.



↑ Six of the nine members of Anamchara Fellowship's Lindisfarne Priory had a retreat on Sept. 3, 2018.
L to R at top: Sr. Jenny Adaryn, Seekers Diane Bleything, Lauren Corder and Lorrie Corder.
L to R at bottom: Br. Finn Coll and Aspirant Ella Williams.





DESERT WISDOM

Desert Peace

by Sr. Patricia Angela



And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

I Kings 19:12

So still, yet the stillness has a voice.

June LeMert Paxton

We live in a noisy world. As I sit here at my computer, the gardener is waving his leaf blower under my window, and a plane is making it's approach to nearby Burbank Airport. Even in the middle of the night, the house isn't silent. The clock ticks, the refrigerator hums, and I hear the never-ceasing traffic on Glenoaks Blvd. I long for the profound silence of the desert of my childhood. Not the dead silence of the absence of sound that you get in a sensory deprivation tank, but the silence that lives because it is full of a Presence. It is a silence like Elijah's on Mt. Horeb where he heard the still, small voice of God.

Wait a minute. Who am I kidding? It isn't the exterior noise that distracts me from prayer; it's the interior racket. It's the stewing over what happened yesterday, and fretting over what might happen tomorrow. It's the "if only" and the "what if". I would probably carry that noise with me if I had a chance to return to the desert.

Sometimes the practice of Centering Prayer and the use of the Sacred Word aren't enough to deal with my head full of squirrels and monkeys. I find that a focus on my breathing and on my own heartbeat are what will quiet my mind and silence the environment. Something else helps, too, and this is counter-intuitive. Listening to the noise around me, being mindful of the sounds will also quiet the interior noise, and get me to that place of contemplation.

I am reminded of a painting by the Flemish artist Bruegel of St. Anthony and his demons. The saint is pictured as being covered with lots of little devils, pulling his hair, twisting his nose with pincers, pouring hot oil over him. But he is oblivious. The rapt expression on his face shows that he is in the presence of the Divine, and these pesky devils don't matter.

Remember that Anamchara Fellowship, Inc. is a Non-Profit organization, and that donations are tax deductible. Though the individual members of the Fellowship do not personally profit from the donations, your generosity helps us continue to bring the Word and Love of God to others through an ever expanding ministry.

Contributions can be sent to:

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Newark, DE 19713

www.AnamcharaFellowship.org

"Silence is God's first language; everything else is a poor translation"

— **Fr. Thomas Keating, OCSO**
(1923-2018)