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## **A Legacy of Love Continues**

### *Blessing & Dedication*

On June 4, 2025, together with the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel and many champions, Catholic Community Services invited the community to bless and dedicate the newly-renovated spaces at Queen of Angels Monastery, a place that has offered prayer, peace, and hospitality for more than 140 years.

We are especially grateful to Bishop Steiner for offering the blessing, to the Larry and Jeanette Epping Family Foundation for making the renovations possible, and to the Providence Benedictine Nursing Center Foundation Board of Directors for their remarkable lead gift to the Queen of Angels Monastery Endowment Fund (see pages 4-6).

Thanks to many volunteers and community partners, St. Joseph Family Shelter and Mission Benedict have officially opened the doors at their new locations. On opening day alone, Mission Benedict served 50 families in the community. Mission Benedict now calls home what used to be the Queen of Angels Monastery carpentry shop.





## A Gathering of Kinship and Hope

Nearly 200 community members, volunteers, and partners gathered to support St. Joseph Family Shelter (SJFS) and Mission Benedict at the 21st Annual St. Joseph the Worker Dinner. This year's dinner raised over \$70,000, which was doubled thanks to a generous matching grant from the Richard and Joanna Kreitzberg Fund and a generous gift from Bishop Kenneth Steiner.



New this year, an elevated silent auction accompanied the decadent dessert auction, with unique experiences, trips and baskets to bid on. The popular Wine, Beer and Coffee Pull, with donations from local wineries, coffee roasters, and the Benedictine Brewery, was once again a crowd favorite.

Special thanks to Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer for her exceptional leadership, support and guidance in planning this important event; Fr. Ralph Recker for his support, for the use of the Parish Center, for blessing the meal and helping with the paddle raise; Kathy Eder-Deshon for organizing the dinner; St. Mary parish volunteers for preparing the meal; Zest Catering for donating the chicken; Mount Angel Knights of Columbus for bartending; and the Junior Catholic Daughters for serving dessert and clearing tables. The dinner was made possible with the support of many businesses and individuals. Please join us in thanking our sponsors listed to the right.



## Thank You

### 2025 St. Joseph Sponsors

#### St. Benedict Sponsors

Mark and Patricia Baker

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**Please consider becoming a 2026 sponsor!**

Email [Communications@ccswv.org](mailto:Communications@ccswv.org) for more info.

**Save the date for next year's dinner: May 3, 2026.**

# A Journey Home



Like so many families, Zack and Jessica were hit hard by the challenges of the pandemic. In just a few months, they lost their jobs, their home, their sobriety and, most painfully, the custody of their two sons.

In 2023, Zack took the brave step toward healing, entering recovery through Helping Hands and later coming to SJFS. That Thanksgiving, their sons moved in with their dad at SJFS, starting the reunification of their family. Shortly after, Jessica followed, seeking the care she needed to begin her own journey to sobriety.

*“When I got to come here, it was amazing. Every night when I wasn’t with my family, I would wake up five or six times just from the trauma of being homeless... I was just so exhausted. And as soon as I came here... the first night I slept through the whole night.”*

- Jessica

Through the support of the shelter’s dedicated team, they grew stronger together. After over a year of hard work and healing, Zack and Jessica graduated from the program, moved into their own place, and stepped into a new chapter of life—together as a family.

## Mission Benedict Wishlist

Mission Benedict is open four days a week to both distribute food to those facing food adversity and accept food donations and volunteer help. The need for food donations is greater now than ever before. Please consider donating any most-needed nonperishable food items, and reach out ahead of time if you wish to donate perishable food. Mission Benedict’s most-needed nonperishable food items are listed to the right. Staff and volunteers are available to accept donations Tuesday through Friday. Mission Benedict’s hours can be found at [ccswv.org/mission-benedict](https://ccswv.org/mission-benedict).

- Canned Vegetables | Canned Fruit
- Canned Meats | Jello/Pudding Mix
- Peanut Butter | Pasta & Sauce
- Flour | Masa | Cereal | Juice
- Rice | Beans | Canned Soup
- Canned Beans | Cans/Packets of Gravy



### Volunteer

To volunteer at Mission Benedict, reach out to Volunteer Services Coordinator Heidi Frederick at [Hfrederick@ccswv.org](mailto:Hfrederick@ccswv.org).

If you would like to help with this year’s Holiday Food Drive, email [Communications@ccswv.org](mailto:Communications@ccswv.org).

**13,489**  
*pounds of food donated by the community*

**647**  
*children received food*

**2,734**  
*total individuals served*

**835**  
*families received food*

**2024**  
*by the numbers*

**2,087**  
*adults received food*

**925**  
*food boxes provided to the community*

**139,664**  
*pounds of food donated by Marion Polk Food Share*

**11,661**  
*food pantry visits*

**90**  
*families received a Christmas food box*



# Appeal of Angels



The Endowment Engagement Committee and board members of CCS and its Foundation gathered to recognize the PBNC Board for its lead gift. *Left to right:* Brian Belleque, Lynda Harrington, Colm Willis, Larry Keudell, Fred Vandecoevering\*, Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer\*, Glenn Goschie\*, Josh Graves, Kathy Beutler\*, Mike Keane, Mark Baker\*, JoAnne Paxton\*, Sharon Zielinski and Donna Garaventa. \*PBNC Board Members, not pictured: Virginia Adams, Jennifer McCarthy, Phil McCorkle, Jerry Milliron, Barbara Niece, Mike Rava, Jeanette Smith and Fr. Philip Waibel.

## Monastery Endowment Committee Honors Providence Benedictine Nursing Center Board of Directors

### *Monastery Endowment Engagement Committee*

#### *Co-Chairs*

Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer, OSB  
Fr. Philip Waibel, OSB

#### *Members*

Susan Black  
Kathy Eder-Deshon  
Glenn Goschie  
Lynda Harrington  
Richard Kreitzberg  
Janeen McAninch  
JoAnne Paxton  
Alicia Ritter

### *Community Champions*

Bishop Kenneth Steiner  
Carolyn Brafford  
Linda M. Craven  
Cynthia A. Gibson  
Parris and Andrea Hawkins  
Heidi Heide  
Nancy E. Hendricks  
Sr. Jane Hibbard, SNJM  
Anne Hill  
Alysa Hilton  
Gretchen Arnold Metzler  
Jim and Lorna Monaghan  
Ron and Mary Prevost  
Jim Seymour

Just over a year ago, Catholic Community Services and the CCS Foundation became the new stewards of the beautiful Queen of Angels Monastery (QAM). Our vision is for the monastery to remain a holy ground of peace, prayer, hope and healing for children, adults and families for generations to come. The Queen of Angels Monastery Endowment Fund has been established to realize this vision. Under the leadership of Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer, OSB, and Fr. Philip Waibel, OSB, the Appeal of Angels Monastery Endowment Engagement Committee was convened in 2024 and developed a plan and case for support to build the fund with the goal of raising \$3.5 million to preserve the monastery and sustain the legacy of service of the Benedictine Sisters.

In spring of this year, it was announced that the Providence Benedictine Nursing Center (PBNC) would be sold to a for-profit entity. The outgoing PBNC Board of Directors contacted CCS about their desire to transfer funds they had raised in the community to CCS upon the closing of the PBNC nonprofit foundation. After meeting with CCS leadership and reviewing the case for support, the outgoing board decided to make a major, lead gift of \$1.15 million to the QAM Endowment Fund.

At the June 4 blessing and dedication of the renovated spaces, the Monastery Endowment Engagement Committee recognized the PBNC Board for this transformative gift. "We extend our deepest gratitude to the Providence Benedictine Nursing Center Board of Directors for their vision, leadership and dedicated community service," said CCS CEO Josh Graves. "With this gift, you are helping to preserve the beautiful monastery grounds and leaving a legacy of hope for those served by our shared ministries today and for future generations."

*Contact [Benedictinefoundation@gmail.com](mailto:Benedictinefoundation@gmail.com) or [Mhayes@ccswv.org](mailto:Mhayes@ccswv.org) for more information.*



# Restored with Love and Care

## *Historic Stations of the Cross*

At the request of the Benedictine Sisters and with the help of a grant from Mt. Angel Oktoberfest, local artist Susan Black and carpenter Fred Vandecoevering partnered with Emily Prall of Canby Signs to replicate the 25-year-old Stations of the Cross located near the Benedictine Cemetery on the Queen of Angels campus. Susan and Emily created the artwork using durable, weather-resistant materials to increase longevity and reduce sun damage. The panels were installed in hand-built, wooden housings crafted by Fred, honoring the legacy and beauty of the original series by Sister Angela Meister, OSB.



*“Brothers and sisters in Christ: Today we seek God’s blessing as we dedicate these Stations of the Cross to the honor and glory of God.*

*We will glory in the cross of Jesus Christ, in Whom is our life and our salvation.*

*Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe. You have enriched our lives with every good and perfect gift; You have commanded us to show Your splendor to Your children and to praise You with lives of love, justice, and joy.*

*Accept these Stations of the Cross which we offer in thanksgiving. As we look upon them and walk Christ’s Way of the Cross, may our hearts be drawn to Him who leads us with His triumphal banner of salvation.*

*Bring us all at length to Your perfect kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.”*

*Blessing of the Stations of the Cross, given by Bishop Steiner.*



Before and after: Renewed in beauty and detail.



Community members gathered as Bishop Kenneth Steiner blessed the restored Stations of the Cross, which were carefully recreated in the original minimalist style of Sister Angela Meister.

# Renovations for Service Innovation

## *Mission Benedict and St. Joseph Family Shelter Spaces Transformed*

Thanks to two generous grants from the Larry and Jeanette Epping Family Foundation, the interiors of the new spaces at the monastery for CCS Child Youth and Family Services have been beautifully renovated and transformed. These welcoming spaces are now serving individuals and families with even greater dignity, comfort and care.



Mission Benedict

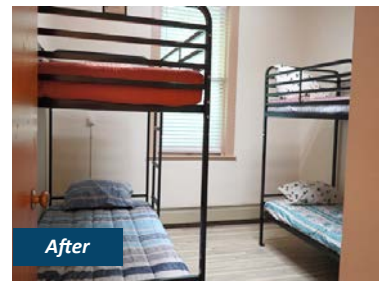
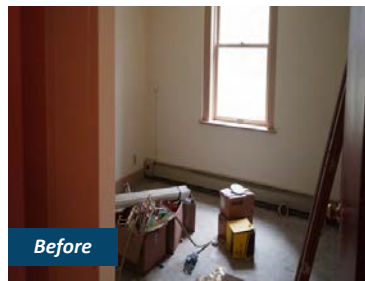
Board and family members of the Larry and Jeanette Epping Family Foundation recently toured the new facilities as well as the grounds of Queen of Angels Monastery where a giant sequoia tree and tribute bench have been placed in honor of the many contributions the Epping family has made to sustain and renew the campus.



St. Joseph Family Shelter Kitchen



Epping family and board members from left to right: Dianne Johnson, Kay Rufener, Shawn Engelberg, Ron Rufener, Charles Engelberg and Gary Epping.



St. Joseph Family Shelter Bedroom



Father Taaffe Homes St. Gertrude Suite Room



Catholic Community Services staff and Epping family and board members in the renovated north wing at Queen of Angels Monastery.



# Friends of the Monastery

*Preserving the Land & Legacy of the Benedictine Sisters*

## Who are Friends of the Monastery?

In addition to sustaining the sisters' legacy of service through CCS Ministries at the Monastery, CCS is committed to preserving the monastery's stunning 30 acres of orchards, flower gardens, heritage trees and open spaces as a place of peace and tranquility for those we serve, and for the broader community.

CCS is inviting the community to help us care for Queen of Angels Monastery by joining the Friends of the Monastery, a new group of volunteers coming together to help accomplish a myriad of tasks such as tending the gardens, pruning the fruit trees and cultivating the grounds, allowing them to flourish at their full potential. In addition to the pride of helping preserve a historic property, Friends of the Monastery will receive invitations to special CCS events and a personalized CCS Friends of the Monastery lanyard. Please email [Communications@ccswv.org](mailto:Communications@ccswv.org) for more information.



*10,395 pounds of fruit was harvested from the Queen of Angels Monastery orchard by volunteers from Salem Harvest in 2024 and donated to community members in need.*



Scan the QR code or visit: [ccswv.org/volunteer/#fotm](https://ccswv.org/volunteer/#fotm) to learn more and fill out the interest form!



# St. Joseph

FAMILY SHELTER  
& MISSION BENEDICT



Founded by the Benedictine Sisters  
Sustained in Partnership with Catholic Community Services

3737 Portland Rd NE, Salem, OR 97301  
[ccswv.org/st-joseph-shelter](http://ccswv.org/st-joseph-shelter)

## JoAnne Paxton Receives Caritas Award



JoAnne Paxton was recognized with the Caritas Award at this year's St. Joseph the Worker Dinner.

JoAnne has been a strong advocate for and supporter of St. Joseph Family Shelter ministries for many years. She advanced the first major gift, which was pivotal in establishing operations under CCS and the Benedictine Sisters' new partnership in 2017. Since then, she has served on the St. Joseph Advisory Board and the Queen of Angels Monastery Engagement Committee.

JoAnne, thank you for your leadership, your selfless service, and your great compassion and dedication to the people we serve in our shared ministries.

## Thank You

### *St. Joseph Advisory Board*

—  
Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer, OSB

Sr. Jane Hibbard, SNJM

Neil Beutler & Kathy Allen-Beutler

Richard Kreitzberg

JoAnne Paxton

Prior Vincent Trujillo, OSB

Fr. Ralph Recker, OSB

Fr. Philip Waibel, OSB

Ray Eder