Annual Giving Campaign – September 2025

Dear Faithful Friends,

As the leaves begin to turn, the Sisters and I find ourselves reflecting on the blessings of the past year and the generous hearts that walk with us on our journey.

Last year was a season of change for our community, as we made the difficult decision to close the Omega Retreat Center. As we proceeded with the closure on June 30, 2025, I was reminded of the wisdom in **Galatians 6:9** "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." As Benedictines, we strive to listen with the ears of our hearts, embracing God's perfect rhythm and timing in all things.

This new season allows us to fully commit to our plan of aging in place at St. Scholastica Monastery (Sr. Antoinette is 98 years old and Sr. Mary Agnes will be 100 years old this month), while strengthening our vital ministries. We continue to operate the Health and Wholeness Center and Sisters' Attic Thrift Store in Boerne, and our Caridad de Corazón border ministry in Eagle Pass. Our Corporate Responsibility ministry, based in San Antonio, also remains strong. These works are sustained by the dedication of our Sisters, co-ministers/staff, and supporters. Additionally, our Benedictine Oblate Program remains a beacon of light, thanks to the devotion of our Oblate Leadership Team and more than 100 Oblates.

As we continue to serve God and those in need, we hope you will consider a gift for this year's Annual Giving Campaign. Our expenses for healthcare and St. Scholastica Monastery operations continue to rise. Your gift will directly support these needs, as well as ongoing maintenance and upgraded furniture to meet the needs our aging Sisters in their rooms and common areas of the Monastery.

Whether you are a new donor or a longtime partner, we need and value your support. Your faithful giving brings us joy and a hopeful future. Your tax-deductible gift of any amount will be a blessing for us all.

Peace and blessings throughout the seasons of your life,

Sr. Bernadine Reyes, OSB

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Please use the enclosed envelope or you can make your gift online at  $\underline{www.boernebenedictines.org}$ .

Thank you!

Sr. Bernadine Reyes, OSB