



MONASTERY BELLS

LIFE WITH THE CLOISTERED DOMINICAN NUNS

website: www.lufkinnuns.org

Blog: <http://lufkintxcontemplativenunsop.blogspot.com>

Winter 2012

MONASTERY OF THE INFANT JESUS

1501 LOTUS LANE

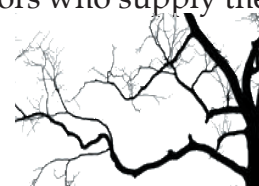
LUFKIN, TX 75904



Every evening at the conclusion of recreation, our community kneels and recites this prayer with arms outstretched in the form of a cross: "Providence can provide. Providence did provide. Providence will provide. O good and provident God, hear our prayers and grant our petitions." Our apostolate is almost exclusively one of prayer, and yet like all of you we have to support ourselves, as well. We are an autonomous monastery of cloistered Dominican nuns, and we do not receive any financial support from the Dominican Order, from the diocese we live in, or even from the Vatican. And, like many of you, we have suffered financially during the recession. We rely on Providence to give us the ability to work and earn what we can, and to send us generous benefactors who supply the income we could never earn through our own efforts.



PROVIDENCE CAN PROVIDE



We send out our newsletter, "Monastery Bells", four times a year, and always include a small envelope suitable for sending your prayer intentions to us. Many people include a donation with their intentions and novena slips, and we are grateful for this.

We distribute Cavanaugh altar breads to over 125 parishes in Texas and throughout the United States. Perhaps your parish might be interested in helping us by receiving our hosts, too!



Through our Infant Jesus Guild of Prayer we answer the mail that comes to us and also send out various prayer enrollment cards and folders, which assure the recipients of a remembrance in our prayers every day. Your joys and sorrows become our own as we take them to the Lord in prayer. Please let us know if you are interested in our enrollment cards and we will send you a starter packet.

For many years we had the Cloistered Workshop, where we made vestments and altar linens, but we have recently had to close this department and look for other ways to support ourselves.

PROVIDENCE DID PROVIDE



We are grateful for all those who have included us in their wills over the years. These legacies have been an important help to us as we live our life of prayer, adoration and sacrifice. Please contact the Monastery if you are interested in learning more about how to remember us when you make your will. We are also thankful for the many people who support us with regular donations. (Acknowledgement of your donation for tax purposes may be obtained by request.)



PROVIDENCE WILL PROVIDE



This past year we have tried some new things in order to increase our income. We conducted a fundraiser with our calendar, "East Texas Pine Forest", and we held our first bazaar. (See the back page for more information!) Both of these enterprises proved to be financially successful, thanks to our many friends, relatives and benefactors who helped us so much. Beginning this spring, we plan to offer a series of greeting cards created by the nuns here at the Monastery. We are really excited about this and hope you will be, too!



We know that our good and provident God will continue to provide for us, and we keep all of you, our faithful benefactors, in our prayers every minute of every day.

PLEASE USE OUR WEBSITE (www.lufkinnuns.org) TO DONATE.

Now you are able to make a donation by using **PayPal** - a secure method of making an online credit card donation while keeping your payment information private.



BAZAAR Texas-Style

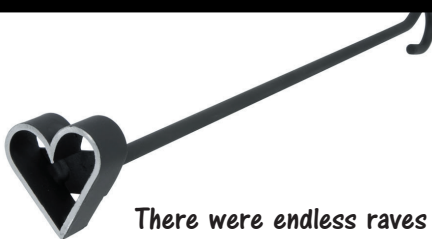
BIG EFFORTS

The Sisters worked very hard to provide as many hand-made items as they could. There were aprons, afgans, dolls, pillows, hats, quilting, and Christmas tree skirts and stockings, to name a few.



BIG HEARTS

The Bazaar could not have happened without the help of our volunteers, donors, supporters and friends. So many people commented on how gracious and welcoming the volunteers were and how much they loved the Sisters.



There were endless raves about the food plates. Local friends did the preparations, cooking and serving. And a group of parishioners even donated the food. It was a sell-out! A BIG thank-you to all of you and also to those who contributed items for the Silent Auction or For Sale and to those who bought them!



BIG SUCCESS!

Many things contributed to the success of the Bazaar and resulted from it. St. Andrew's Hall provided the space and perfect layout we needed to set up. We are grateful to Fr. Joe for the hospitality shown to us.

Friends came from Corpus Christi to polish nails in their improvised "salon". Supporters in Beaumont offered to raffle a cross-stitched Christmas tablecloth. Various churches helped promote the Bazaar and well-wishers put advertisements in the paper. And best of all was the idea to form "Friends of the Monastery" for future fund-raising. What a BIG blessing it is to live in TEXAS!



BIG OPPORTUNITY!

In order to share the bazaar with our Monastery Bells readers, we have saved four items to raffle. No donation is required to win. There is an afgan and framed cross-stitch made by the nuns, an original painting and a hand-made beaded necklace. Fill out the tickets and return in the enclosed envelope. Any donations received will help us to continue our life of prayer.