



News Release

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Osage Sister celebrates 60 years of professed life

Sand Springs, Okla. – She may have grown up on the busy city streets of Brooklyn, N.Y., but Sister Kathleen Gorman, OSB happily declares that life in the monastery is her "natural environment."

On Oct. 5, she celebrated her 60th Jubilee as a Benedictine Sister of Perpetual Adoration and enjoys the simplicity of life offered at the congregation's community in Sand Springs, Okla.

The desire for union with God was the impetus, even as a teenager, for her search for a way to attain this. A book by French theologian Reginal Garrigou-Lagrange gave her the clue she sought.

"He was one of the first to teach that union with God through contemplation was open to everyone, not just to special people," she said.

With thoughts of attending college floating through her mind, she realized a contemplative life was calling to her and decided to explore that path instead. She wrote letters to more than two dozen communities across the country, but it was the response from the Benedictine Sisters in Clyde, Mo., that captured her interest.

"It was the balance of prayer and work," she said, "that attracted me." Just a few months later and less than two weeks after her high school graduation, she entered religious life.

During the past six decades, Sister Kathleen worked in the correspondence department and was prioress of the former monastery in San Diego, Calif. She spent more than 15 years at the St. Louis, Mo. community where she served as a member of the General Council and as novice director. She also earned a bachelor's degree from St. Louis University.

These days she centers her interest on interreligious dialogue at the Sand Springs monastery, a Benedictine ashram. A small community of five sisters, they focus their energy on providing a place for contemplative retreat and spiritual enrichment for people of all faiths.

"But it is community life that is the wheel at which the Potter makes us to be what God wants us to be," she said.

"In renewing my suscipe, 'Receive me, O Lord, according to your promise, and I shall live; disappoint me not in my hope,' I again surrender myself to the one in whom I believe and in whom I place my trust, who is the well-beloved of my life," she said.



Sr. Kathleen Gorman

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