



# BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF PERPETUAL ADORATION

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**Change to Summer Monastic Experience nets same great result**



Benedictine Sister Maria Victoria Cutaia, OSB (center) visits with two of the 10 participants in this year's Summer Monastic Experience. The annual event, typically held at the Sisters' Clyde, Mo., monastery, took place at their Tucson monastery this year because of renovations.

**CLYDE, Mo.** – Monastery renovations for the Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in Clyde meant a change to their annual Summer Monastic Experience earlier this month, but participants still had an amazing time spent with current women religious and others discerning a vocation.

Due to a temporary lack of guest space because of ongoing renovations to their main building in Clyde, the Sisters hosted the annual week-long retreat at their Tucson, Ariz., monastery instead.

"It was a bit different in Tucson because we don't have as much outdoor space to take advantage of as we do in Clyde," Vocation Director Sister Ruth Elaine Starman, OSB said. "However, both communities are always warm and welcoming to guests, so the women still achieved a better understanding of our Benedictine lifestyle."

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Ten participants, ranging in age from 18 to 45, spent the week delving into sessions on Liturgy of the Hours, adoration, vocation discernment and contemplative prayer. They also enjoyed playing games and took part in a variety of works such as food preparation, gardening and sewing.

“They had the opportunity to learn what our total life in the monastery is like. It’s spent in prayer, in work and in enjoying each other in community,” Sister Ruth Elaine said. “Many of the participants wished the experience was longer and hope to visit Clyde next year. Several expressed that participating in lauds and vespers was a highlight as well as hearing vocation stories and meeting with other women on the same spiritual quest.”

The Benedictine Sisters’ Summer Monastic Experience is a companion retreat to several vocation weekends offered throughout the year and the Spring Break Monastic week-long experience. For more information, please contact Sister Elaine Ruth at [vocation@benedictinesisters.org](mailto:vocation@benedictinesisters.org) or (660) 944-2221.

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Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration  
31970 State Highway P Clyde, Mo. 64432 (660) 944-2221  
[www.BenedictineSisters.org](http://www.BenedictineSisters.org) [www.Facebook.com/BenedictineSisters](https://www.Facebook.com/BenedictineSisters)  
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