



CONGREGATION OF BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF PERPETUAL ADORATION

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## News Release

April 1, 2010

### **Benedictine Sisters to close Adoration Chapel during Sacred Stones, Sacred Stories renovation project**

**CLYDE, Mo.** – The Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in Clyde will temporarily close their Adoration Chapel to the public beginning Wednesday, April 14.

The chapel will be closed to guests due to the Sacred Stones, Sacred Stories project, which includes the renovation of the monastery's main house.

“Currently we are moving sisters into other living areas, creating temporary office space, packing and getting ready for the first phase to begin soon,” Clyde Prioress Sister Sean Douglas, OSB said. “There will be a lot of heavy equipment on-site. To ensure everyone's safety during the construction process, the chapel will be closed to the public.”

The multimillion-dollar project will preserve the Clyde monastery's historical presence as a place dedicated to prayer and the Eucharist. The project will include the addition of new heating and cooling systems, an elevator, bedrooms and baths, a new entrance and additional hospitality areas for visitors and guests.

“The principles guiding our efforts are that the monastery will be a place of prayer, community and contemplative life, which fosters our relationship with Christ,” Prioress General Sister Pat Nyquist said. “Our space will emanate our unique heritage, respect the multi-generational needs of our current and future community and manifest our commitment to the judicious use of our resources.”

The original motherhouse was constructed during the early 1880s and has since been expanded and renovated. The driving factor behind those changes was the desire to meet the evolving needs of the Congregation, including fluctuating membership, diverse works and environmental stewardship. While modifying the motherhouse to improve the quality of life for the sisters is important, they are determined to conduct the project with great care to the environment.

“The Benedictines have a tradition of good stewardship of the earth's resources,” Sister Sean said. “We will recycle all the building materials we can such as windows, doors, cabinets, shelving, roofing, woodwork, masonry, plumbing and electrical. For items we are unable to use, we try to sell, donate and recycle rather than send to a landfill. Some things we'll save for future use.”

In fact, even though the main project has yet to begin, the sisters have already recycled wood into new display cases and walls for their Relic Chapel. To learn more about the Sacred Stones, Sacred Stories project, please call (660) 944-2221 or click on <http://www.clydemonastery.org/StoneStories/>.

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