



THE ABBEY OF OUR LADY OF
NEW CLAIRVAUX
VINA, CALIFORNIA

GESTA MONASTICA

News from the Abbey of Our Lady of New Clairvaux



Father Paul Mark Schwan, OCSO
ABBOT

FROM THE ABBOT'S DESK

To our cherished friends,

The liturgical season of Easter concluded with the solemnity of Pentecost, aka the nativity of the church. Pentecost inaugurates the return to Ordinary Time that began after the Baptism of the Lord but interrupted by the Lenten and Paschal seasons. Numerous solemnities, the Church's major liturgical celebrations, follow in succession in the month

of June, Trinity Sunday, Corpus Christi Sunday, the Sacred Heart, the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, and Saints Peter and Paul.

Our monastery's liturgical calendar adds two additional solemnities. On July 2nd, we mark both the anniversary of the foundation of the monastery in 1955 and the dedication of our church in 2018. On July 11th, we celebrate the solemnity of our father, St. Benedict. All these celebrations develop different aspects of the Gospel. Trinity Sunday celebrates the mystery of the communion within the Triune God. Corpus Christi celebrates the mystery of the Body and Blood of Christ: God sustaining his

people with the very life of God. The Sacred Heart celebrates the Heart of God which teaches us the love of God poured out for us. The Nativity of St. John the Baptist celebrates



Abbot Paul Mark clothes newest novice with cloth cincture.

the encounter between John and Jesus and the proclamation of conversion that prepares us to meet the Lord. Saints Peter and Paul

Looking Back . . .

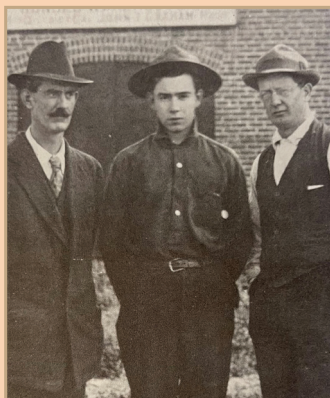
In 1887, while Leland Stanford owned the Great Vina Ranch, the Brandy warehouses were built along with the wine cellar. The warehouses were built as a series of individual brick and iron vaults. Captain Hamden W. McIntyre designed and supervised the construction of the new buildings. Bricks were sourced from Roseville, Red Bluff, and Anderson.

McIntyre was a man who had earned his reputation through his construction of Inglenook Winery, of which he retained his manager position of while in Vina. McIntyre had turned down a position as CEO of the State Board of Viticultural Commissioners when accepting the position at the Great Vina Ranch to manage the world's largest vineyard and winery.

The bonded warehouse, with four U.S. treasury revenue agents stationed there year round, had a 1,000,000-gallon storage capacity. Brandy was distributed domestically as well as internationally.



Taken in 1890.



U.S. Federal Gaugers

commemorate the preaching and witnessing of the Gospel and our own call to evangelize. The dedication of the monastery's church celebrates both our monastic witness to the Gospel in this place of Vina since 1955 and what it means to be a faith community in the Cistercian school of charity. The solemnity of St. Benedict celebrates how we monks are called to live daily the gospel

REGULAR VISITATION OF OUR ABBEY

Dom Gerard D'Souza, abbot of Our Lady of the Genesee Abbey was delegated to conduct our regular visitation this year. The regular visitation of a daughter-house is normally conducted once every two years. This practice goes back to the earliest foundations of the Cistercian Order in the 12th-century.



Dom Gerard (left) poses for a photo with our Brother Mary Francis (right).

of Jesus Christ in the 1500 year old Benedictine tradition.

However you celebrate the important moments of your lives, know that we monks celebrate with you in our daily prayers for you.

Thanks for reading!

Fr. Paul Mark

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR ABBEY

Please visit our website at www.newclairvaux.org to learn more about scheduling a weekend or weeklong retreat, docent-led and self-guided tours of the abbey, attending Mass and Vespers, closure dates, our winery and tasting room, and our gift and bookstore. Visit us also also on our social media: YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.



Our guestmaster, Brother William, welcomes guests to the giftstore.

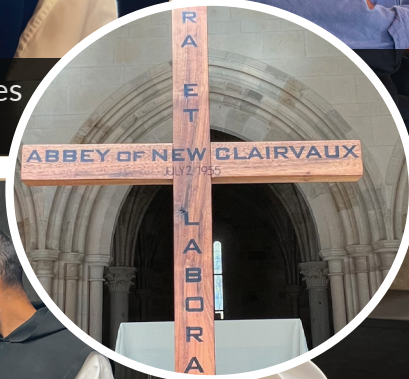
Celebrating around the Cloister



Father Lawrence celebrates his 91st birthday.



Brothers celebrating Independence Day.



The brothers celebrate our 67th anniversary of foundation.



Father Harold celebrates 60 years of priestly ordination.

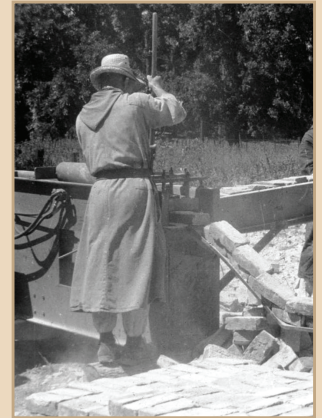
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT THE ABBEY

As the new Volunteer Coordinator, I am happy to remind all our friends that the Volunteer Program at the Abbey is alive and well. We are looking to expand our roster of generous and talented volunteers. I want to thank all our current and past volunteers who have promoted the Abbey's mission through their valuable contributions of generous service, and helped us to thrive with their infusion of friendship and good zeal. Our community welcomes new volunteers to help us with a variety of projects. Check our website to get up-to-date information about volunteer opportunities or contact Brother Luis: volunteer@newclairvaux.org.



Peter Schaeffer volunteers his Saturday mornings to help out in our senior wing.

A few years after the Abbey was established in 1955, some of the buildings were dismantled and the bricks sold. Over the years the warehouses have been used for harvesting, and storage of equipment and hay.

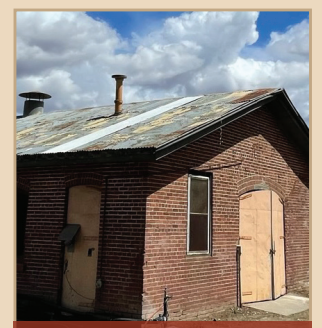


Looking Ahead ...

Today, some of the remaining sacred stones are stored in the warehouses which we now call the "Brandy Barns". The Abbey is currently working with the Architectural Resource Group of San Francisco in an effort to assess the maintenance needs in order to preserve this historical building.



Stanford's "Brandy Barns" today.



Same red brick barn as on previous page 132 years later.



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