

Daughters of Mary, Mother of Our Savior



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Saint Joseph's Novitiate

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“The Son of God wished to present Himself under the form of a sweet little Child, that thus He might the more readily draw to Himself the love of man.” – St. Alphonsus Liguori

FROM THE MOTHER GENERAL

Dear Friends of the Daughters of Mary,

Each year in December and January, the Sisters, Novices and Postulants joyfully keep the forty days of Christmastide. I would like to share some of our customs and activities which ordinarily take place in our convents and schools during this time.

At the Motherhouse

Throughout the four weeks of preparation for Christmas, the Sisters used a booklet of daily devotional practices to help make ready our hearts for approaching the crib. These little acts of virtue in honor of the Christ Child were taken from the archives of the Carmelite convent where St. Therese lived.

The Sisters also prepared for the holy season by carefully practicing the Gregorian Chant and carols which were to be sung on Christmas. For the week preceding the Nativity, we gathered in the chapel each day to sing one of the seven glorious and ancient "O Antiphons." These short selections of Gregorian Chant include various Biblical prophecies of the birth of Our Savior. It is a tradition in our convents to ring the altar bells throughout the entire singing of Our Lady's "Magnificat" which follows the antiphon each day.



The Postulants help set up the chapel Nativity scene.



The Sisters attend Midnight Mass at the Motherhouse.