



Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will



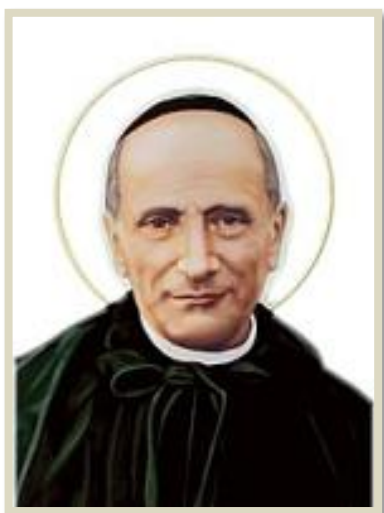
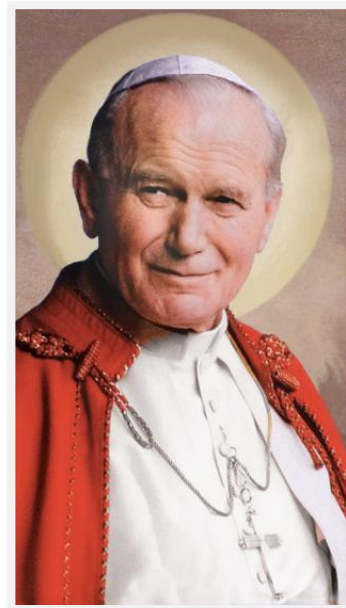
FALL NEWSLETTER



The New and Divine Holiness

On page three of the July 9th, 1997 edition of *L'Osservatore Romano*, Pope Saint John Paul II wrote about the Divine Will in the following letter to the Rogationist Fathers on the centenary of the death of their founder, St. Annibale Maria di Francia:

"This is not another devotion, nor a new charism to illuminate a part of the Attributes of God, but it is the Holiness of God Himself as True Life of the soul in whom He wants to infuse His very own Acts and in them His own Holiness. These Acts caused Jesus as many wounds, deaths and sufferings for as many sins that have been committed and as much good that has been omitted. He endured all in His Spirit of Love for souls to save and sanctify them and created for each a Divine Life. These Divine Acts of the Humanity of Jesus are eternal reparations for the great divorce of the human will from the Divine Will, from Adam and Eve to the last who shall live on the earth. All are done to draw the kingdom on earth as in Heaven, through the sanctification of souls who will live in this 'New and Divine Holiness' with which the Holy Spirit wants to enrich Christians at the dawn of the third millennium so as to make Christ the Heart of the world."



St. Annibale di Francia lived in this Divine Holiness, having learned it from his spiritual daughter, the Servant of God, Luisa Piccarreta. He censored her writings and was the first to publish and propagate them.

During his pontificate, Pope Saint John Paul II spoke very often of the New and Divine Holiness that's coming soon. At the moment, as we see the Church and the world being crucified, we know that soon all will rise again, more beautiful and radiant than ever. This is the greatest time to be alive, as we embrace this beautiful gift of living in God's Most Holy and Divine Will and prepare for His Kingdom to come on earth as it is in Heaven.





THE TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS



On September 14th we celebrated the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross. Jesus expresses to Luisa in the Divine Will writings that the cross is such a great gift. He told her that those who suffer the most with resignation have the highest places in Heaven, that we should embrace our crosses and be totally resigned to the Will of God in all things. In volume 6 - March 16, 1904, Our Lord states the following:

"Among the many titles that the cross has, it has the title of 'feast day', because when one receives a gift, what happens? One makes feast, rejoices and is more content. Now, since the cross is the most precious, the noblest gift, and is given by the greatest and most unique Person that exists, it is more pleasing and brings more feast, more gladness than all other gifts. The soul comes to experience these effects of the cross when she is perfectly resigned to My Will and has given all of herself to Me, without keeping anything for herself. And I, so as not to be surpassed in love by the creature, give her all of Myself, and in giving Myself I also give My Cross; and the soul recognizing it as My gift, makes feast and enjoys."

We learn from the Divine Will writings that the cross does not sanctify; rather, resignation to God's Will sanctifies the cross. Therefore, even our crosses can do good as long as they are connected with His Will. Being resigned to everything God allows in our lives moment by moment and giving our fiats always, is a sure way to grow in great holiness and prove our love for Him. In volume 3 - May 3, 1900, Luisa states:

"This morning I found myself outside of myself, and I saw all of Heaven studded with crosses - some small, some large, some medium; some which were larger, emanated more splendor. It was a most sweet enchantment to see so many crosses adorning the firmament, more refulgent than suns. Then, it seemed that Heaven opened, and one could see and hear the feast that the Blessed were making for the cross. Those who had suffered more were celebrated more on this day. One could distinguish in a special way the martyrs and those who had suffered in a hidden way. Oh, how esteemed were the cross and those who had suffered more in that blessed dwelling! As I was seeing this, a voice resounded throughout the whole of Heaven, saying: 'If the Lord did not send the crosses upon the earth, He would be like a father who has no love for His children and wants to see them poor and dishonored, instead of honored and rich'."

How do we come to love the cross and become totally resigned to it? Suffering isn't easy. We naturally seem to always run away from whatever is painful. Romans 8:28 states: *"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."* We should then thank and praise God for all things. When we thank and praise God for everything that happens to us, even our most difficult crosses, situations change. Most often, we receive peace. Sometimes miracles even happen and our sufferings are quickly transformed into blessings for our good. Why? Because when we thank and praise God for the things that the evil one does, he flees, since he hates for us to thank and praise God. When he flees, God comes into the situation and everything changes - our attitude and, very often, the situation itself. Whether you feel like thanking and praising

Him or not, you should just keep repeating it anyway, and you will receive many graces to deal with the situation at hand. Because of our obedience in doing what God has asked us to do, that is, thanking and praising Him in all things, we know everything *will* work out for our good as He has promised.

Another thing that's usually very helpful is calling God into our pain and suffering, whatever it may be. Whether our suffering is mental, physical, psychological, or spiritual, God loves us so much that He wants to relive His Life in each one of us. But first, He wants us to invite Him into all of our activities, sufferings, and pains. How much our lives will change as we realize His Presence within. As we invite Him to breathe in our breathing, to beat in our hearts, to speak in our speaking, etc., we will continually die to our own human wills and live more fully in His Divine Will, growing more and more into His Image and Likeness.

The more we practice this wonderful exercise, we will see ourselves through the eyes of Jesus, and our joy will grow. We will then begin to see everyone else through His eyes. As we come to realize how much He loves us just as we are, we will come to love others just as they are, always seeing them through the eyes of Jesus. In volume 2 - August 8, 1899, Jesus told Luisa the following:

"Resignation absorbs all that can be painful and disgusting to one's nature and renders it sweet. And since My Being is peaceful and tranquil, in such a way that - no matter what may happen in Heaven and on earth - It cannot receive the slightest breath of disturbance, resignation has the virtue of grafting these very virtues of Mine into the soul. A resigned soul is always at rest; and not only herself, but she also allows Me to rest peacefully within her."

We know from the Divine Will writings that when Jesus received the Cross, He embraced It as His dearest treasure. He knew the great gift that His crucifixion would bring about for all souls who would open their hearts in order to receive His gift of salvation. Now we can requite His great love for us by embracing our crosses and being totally resigned to everything that comes our way from moment to moment.



Sr. Denielle enters as a postulant, with Mother Gabrielle Marie clothing her in the veil under the Cross of her Beloved.



OCTOBER - The Month of the Holy Rosary

(October 7th - Feast of the Holy Rosary)



In this month of October, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Rosary. We know that the Rosary is a powerful prayer when prayed from the heart, as Our Lady has encouraged us to do in Her apparitions in Medjugorje. By praying the Rosary, sinners receive forgiveness, those afflicted find joy, those in temptations resist evil, those who are sick gain health, and souls of the faithful departed enter Heaven. In all of Her apparitions, Our Lady has always asked us to pray the Rosary. She asked the children of Fatima to pray many Rosaries. She appeared to St. Bernadette in Lourdes with a rosary in Her hands, asking her to pray the Rosary.



Composed of the prayer of Christ - the *Our Father* - along with the angelic salutation given by St. Gabriel to Our Lady, that is, the *Hail Mary*, the Holy Rosary was without a doubt the first prayer and the first devotion of the faithful. It has been used throughout the centuries, from the time of the Apostles and disciples down to the present. It was in the year 1214 that we received the Holy Rosary as we pray it in its present form, when Our Lady appeared to St. Dominic accompanied by three angels. Her words to St. Dominic were: *"Dear Dominic, do you know which weapon the Blessed Trinity wants to use to reform the world? I want you to know that if you want to reach hardened souls and win them over to God, preach My Psalter."*



Praying the Rosary is like offering a bouquet of flowers to Our Lady.

St. Dominic continually taught and preached the Holy Rosary. Miraculous things happened, and many were converted. The original purpose of the Rosary, as revealed to St. Dominic, was to combat heresy. This was not only meant for the 13th century, but for all time. Pope Leo XIII rightly stated that *"Our need of divine help is as great today as when the great Dominic introduced the use of the Rosary of Mary as a balm for the wounds of his contemporaries."*

There are many reasons why we should pray the Rosary. The Rosary is like a weapon that conquers the evil one. It's a meditation on the life of Christ and brings peace. The Rosary teaches virtue and is an expression of love for Jesus and Mary. Our Lady instructed St. Dominic to teach the faithful to meditate upon the sacred mysteries of the life of Jesus Christ. She requested this, not only so we might adore and glorify Him, but that we might pattern our lives and actions upon His virtues as well.

In our striving to do Rounds in the Divine Will, we can pray a "Rounds Rosary" by placing an *'I love You'* on every aspect of the mysteries of the Rosary. As we desire to place our *'I love You'* on the different aspects of the life of Christ, Jesus does it for us. He takes the desires of our hearts and makes them realities. We desire it and He does it for us, and so it becomes a Divine *'I love You'*. Only He can do



Divine Acts and Rounds. Because our Rounds are done by Jesus for us, our *'I love You'* will shout out to the Eternal Father continually and for all eternity, giving Him the honor and glory He so very much deserves.

Some people find it difficult to remember to do Rounds in the Divine Will throughout the day. Perhaps praying the fifteen or twenty-decade Rosary as a Rounds Rosary every day would be one way of overcoming that difficulty. By doing so, meditating on the Holy Rosary will become easier and more delightful. It will also be a way of praying from the heart, as Our Lady has requested us to do in Medjugorje. Since everything is present to God (God is outside of time), you can place yourself wherever each mystery of the Rosary takes you. You can be in the cave of Bethlehem the moment Jesus was born, or you can be at the foot of the Cross during the crucifixion, etc.

Our Mother is a loving Mother who knows what's best for us. We should want to fulfill Her requests. She knows that praying the Rosary will help us to grow in holiness, and so She continually encourages us to do so in all of Her apparitions. Father Patrick Peyton, who promoted the Rosary around the world, used to say very often, *"The family that prays together stays together."* If you pray the family Rosary daily, you'll see wonderful things happening as your children will become more faithful and obedient, and you will experience peace and joy in your home.



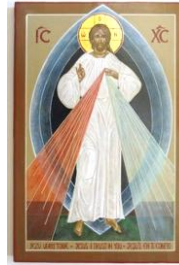
From Maryville, TN:



Praise the Lord! Sister Denielle Brevaire, 32 years old from Tucson, Arizona, is the newest member of the Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will. She entered the community as a postulant on April 27th, Divine Mercy Sunday. Please keep Sr. Denielle in your prayers as she begins her journey as a religious sister.



Sr. Denielle
and her
mom who
came to visit
from AZ.



Bride of Christ!

"For I have come down from Heaven, not to do My own will, but to do the Will of Him who sent Me" (John 6:38). Have I, Sister Faustina, truly surrendered my own will to the Father's Will? Well, I am still a work in progress and will be for the rest of my life, but I can say that the past two years as a novice of the Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will have helped me tremendously. They have taught me the importance of obedience, chastity, poverty and charity. And by reading the Divine Will writings for an hour each day, as our community rule requires, I'm also learning the secret of growing in these areas and all areas of holiness – letting Jesus do everything in, with and through us.

Obedience is not only following orders, but it is about listening and opening yourself up to God in everything He wants from you with a content, willing, and happy heart. It's about responding to His Will in every moment: *Here I am, Lord, I come to*



Bishop Mark Beckman & Sr. Faustina
on the day of her first vows – 8/15/25



Sr. Faustina with her family from Mexico and Texas.

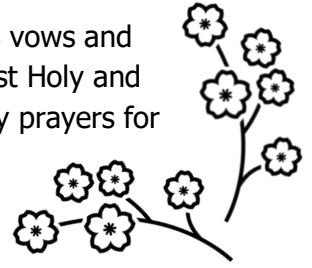
do Your Will (Psalm 40:7-8). By being obedient, it becomes easier to detach from everything and live a poor life...not only in regards to material things, but most importantly by being empty of ourselves so that God may reign in us. In that emptiness, God transforms our heart, mind and soul, making us a pure and clean vessel seeking only one thing: to love Him above all things. In loving God above all things, we learn that charity needs to be practiced both towards oneself and others. Because the Trinity dwells in us, the way we treat ourselves and others is how we treat God.

By the grace of God and through the guidance of Our Blessed Mother, I made my first profession of vows on August 15th, 2025: *Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady*. There's still much to live and learn from the religious life. Our vocation, like all vocations, is a continuous training experience with Heaven as our goal, so that we can

say like St. Paul: *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."* I thank the Lord for His great mercy in calling me to be His bride, imperfect and incapable as I am. But despite my flaws and weaknesses, I still know that He loves me so much. I thank you for all of your prayers and I continue to ask for more...for

perseverance in my religious vows and living according to God's Most Holy and Divine Will. Be assured of my prayers for you as well. God bless you!

Sr. Faustina



Gratitude for the Holy Habit...and so much more!



After a year of postulancy with the Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will, it was a great joy to be invested in the holy habit and receive my new name: Sister Maria Philomena of the Child Jesus. I am very grateful to God and look forward to continuing my life with Him. I pray for His strength to love Him through my sisters, with His Own Divine Love. As I reflect on my journey thus far, which He has been pleased to guide me along, I feel nothing but gratitude and awe for all the ways He has been gently drawing me closer to Himself. Philomena, meaning *"beloved"* or *"she who is loved"* in Greek and *"daughter of light"* in Italian, will be my guiding anthem as, with God's grace, I continue to walk this beautiful journey with Him. Praise the Lord giving me the help of so powerful a saint as Philomena! *Sr. Philomena*



Sister Maria Philomena of the Child Jesus during her investment ceremony.



Sr. Meghan's last day of postulancy with her family.



From Talamello, Italy:

On October 8th and 9th, the Vatican will host the *Jubilee of Consecrated Life* - a major event during the Catholic Church's 2025 Holy Year. This two-day gathering is dedicated to celebrating and honoring people who have committed their lives to religious service. Pope Leo XIV will celebrate a special Mass for all those attending. Our sisters from Talamello, Italy and San Marino are excited to attend!

We sisters in Talamello are busy preparing to teach Catechism to the children of our village. There's never a dull moment in living the religious life. With our full schedule of work and prayer, there's no time to waste. God is good and life is such a joy when lived totally for Him.

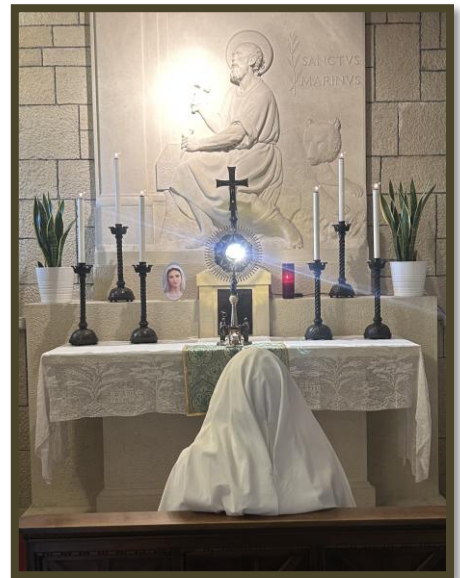


From San Marino:



September is a special month for the sisters in the Republic of San Marino. The Feast of San Marino is celebrated every year on September 3rd with a solemn high Mass at the basilica and a procession with the holy relics of the saint, followed by an octave of religious celebrations throughout the small country. Here is a little background on this wonderful saint.

San Marino was a stonemason that escaped Christian persecution in modern day Croatia under the Roman Emperor Diocletian in the early 4th century. He sought refuge on Mount Titano, where he lived as a hermit before eventually being ordained as a deacon in Rimini, Italy. His holiness attracted many, and over time a Christian community formed around him. A generous woman, who was a landowner, gifted Mount Titano to San Marino, and because of her generosity, he was able to form a small monastic settlement there in 301 A.D. It is now one of the world's oldest republics, known as the Republic of San Marino.



This is a beautiful example of how generosity and faith can have ripple effects within your community and the world. In the Divine Will we become instruments of grace, even if the ripple effects are not always seen. Just as physical acts affect the natural world, our Acts, Rounds and reparations in the Divine Will produce giant waves with the power to change hearts and minds and form the Kingdom of the Divine Will as center stage in all souls.



From Sr. Francesca:

*Sr. Francesca and her
sister, Melissa, in
Venice, Italy – Oct 2023*

As some of you may already know or have noticed from my absence on Mary's Hill and Radio Maria, I've been living away from the community since late December. Mother Gabrielle Marie has been so generously allowing me to live with my sister in New York as she battles metastatic colon cancer. My sister survived colon cancer in her late twenties, but much to our surprise and that of her doctors, it returned seventeen years later in her lungs. She has been living alone since losing her husband less than three years ago, so I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to offer her daily support through this very heavy trial. Between the disease itself and the side effects of treatment, everything has become difficult for her...even simple, everyday tasks. My sister often thanks me for what I do and apologizes for being "so useless" (to use her own words), but I try to convince her of the truth that she is doing *far* more with her suffering and union with Christ crucified. As for me, my mom and the so many family members and friends



who have helped my sister, any sacrifice that we may make gets swallowed up in love. While it's very painful to watch someone you care deeply about suffer, it's also a privilege to serve them and try to relieve that suffering in any way possible.

The Lord has taught my sister and I so much through this cross. It has been a real first-hand experience of all Jesus taught Luisa about the power of redemptive suffering. Though the journey has been rough, we've also received many signs of God's love and faithfulness through it all. In addition to the Sacraments, my sister has found great comfort in the intercession of the saints along with the Holy Rosary, Divine Will chaplet, praise and worship music, and the Surrender Novena. There are so many rich sources of consolation in our Catholic faith!

Thank you for sustaining us with your love, prayers and support! We are overwhelmed by the

goodness and generosity of so many. Please continue to pray for my sister - Melissa Doreson - and our whole family. As a priest friend recently said, we're going to pray for a miracle of healing because that is what God asks us to do. And if He doesn't grant it, we can trust that it's only because He wants to give us something better. We have a Father who only knows how to give good things. So please join us in asking, seeking and knocking like the persistent widow as the Gospel commands...or like the Canaanite mother whose faith delighted Jesus when she wouldn't take no for an answer. We don't know what God will do, but we do know that He's working for our good. He has a plan and, no matter what, that plan will end in glory! *"Jesus, I surrender myself to You. Take care of everything."* (from the Surrender Novena)



PRAY AND WORK



**ORA ET
LABORA**



Supporting the Sisters

...and their
New Monastery!

If you feel the Holy Spirit calling you to financially support the Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will this fall or throughout the year, visit the "Donations" page of our website to make a one-time donation by credit/debit card or to sign up for automatic monthly contributions...



www.benedictinesofdivinewill.org

You can also simply send a check or money order to the following address: *(All donations are tax-deductible)*



Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will
2425 Tipton Loop Rd.
Maryville, TN 37803



Your generosity will provide for the basic needs and expenses of our sisters in the U.S., Italy and San Marino as well as help us to carry out God's Most Holy and Divine Will in any capacity He asks of us. If you would like your donation to be allocated to the building of our Motherhouse in Tennessee, just make sure to write "*Monastery donation!*" on your check or in the note section if donating online by credit card. See attached flyer for more information. Thank you for your goodness to us! Be assured our benefactors never leave our daily prayers. God bless you!



Help Us Build Our New Monastery in Maryville, TN!

We are very excited that the foundation of our new monastery has been completed and construction is beginning. We need your help to reach the finish line!



Dry wall and roof are up!



Representation of what our finished monastery will look like.

Whether large or small, any donation is appreciated. Be assured that all of our benefactors are warmly remembered in our daily prayers. Legacy gifts in honor of loved ones or families are also welcome. We hope you will visit when the construction is done to pray with us in the Divine Will and see the fruits of your contribution.

OPPORTUNITIES TO DONATE:

Engraved Brick or Stone Paver

Placed on the walkway & patios surrounding the monastery:

Brick, standard (4" x 8")
\$250

Maximum 4 lines
14 characters per line

Brick, standard Paver (8" x 8")
\$500

Maximum 8 lines
14 characters per line

Crab Orchard Stone Brick (4" x 8")
\$1,000

Maximum 4 lines
14 characters per line

Crab Orchard Stone Paver (8" x 8")
\$2,000

Maximum 8 lines
14 characters per line

Crab Orchard Stone Paver (12' x 12")
\$3,500

Maximum 12 lines
14 characters per line

Granite Brick (4" x 8")
\$5,000

Maximum 4 lines
14 characters per line

Granite Paver (8" x 8")
\$10,000

Maximum 8 lines
14 characters per line



Brick, standard



Brick Paver



Crab Orchard Stone
A very hard, native TN stone with a rose color



Granite Brick

Specific Construction Donations

Your name will be displayed on a plaque on or near the donated item(s) or on a wall in the main hallway of the monastery. We will contact you to discuss your recognition preferences.

Entry Doors to the Monastery \$25,000

Other Exterior Doors (4) \$8,500

Commercial Kitchen Appliances \$100,000

Kitchen Cabinetry \$80,000

Woodburning Fireplaces (2) \$40,000 each

Porch \$180,000

Windows (including installation) \$25,000

Doors, Interior \$15,000

Stairway \$25,000

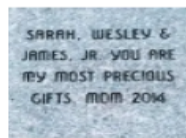


Our monastery will be a simple Tennessee home with 17 rooms where we can live a life of littleness and simplicity:

A life of Nazareth.

Living in the Divine Will is possible when we allow Jesus and His Love to do everything in us!

Fiat!



Granite Paver

Deciduous Tree

\$1,500

Planted on the grounds of the monastery for shade and beauty with an Engraved plaque placed beside the tree. 6'-7' high minimum.

General Building Fund:

Major Donors (Over \$10,000)

Your name (or that of your loved one) will be placed on a plaque on a wall in the chapel or in the hallway outside the chapel. Please contact us for larger donations and other options for special recognition.

Please see next page for ordering and contact information.

Thank you for your generous support!

Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will Monastery Donation Order Form:

Please Print Clearly

Name	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Phone	
Email	

Please check the box of your order and fill out the characters as you would like them to appear below. Leave a blank space where you would like a space. Please place numbers, capital letters, hyphens, apostrophes, periods, commas, "&" in their own spaces.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|------------|
| ☐ 4 x 8 Brick, standard. | Max of 4 lines, 14 characters | \$250 |
| ☐ 8 x 8 Brick Paver. | Max of 8 lines, 14 characters | \$500 |
| ☐ 4 x 8 Crab Orchard Stone Brick | Max of 4 lines, 14 characters | \$1,000 |
| ☐ 8 x 8 Crab Orchard Stone Paver | Max of 8 lines, 14 characters | \$2,000 |
| ☐ 12 x 12 Crab Orchard Large Paver | Max of 12 lines, 14 characters | \$3,500 |
| ☐ 4 x 8 Granite Brick | Max of 4 lines, 14 characters | \$5,000 |
| ☐ 8 x 8 Granite Paver | Max of 8 lines, 14 characters | \$10,000 |
| ☐ Deciduous Tree (with plaque) | Max of 4 lines, 14 characters | \$1,500 |
| ☐ General Building Fund | Amount _____ | |
| ☐ Construction Donation (specific) | Amount _____ | Item _____ |

Please write **"Monastery donation"** on your check and mail it with this order form to the following address: (All donations are tax-deductible)

**Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will
2425 Tipton Loop Road
Maryville, TN 37803**

Please keep a copy of this order form for your records. Feel free to reach out to us with any questions or specific requests regarding larger Construction Donations, General donations, Hermitage or Plaque Donations. We will be sure to contact you when those orders are received to discuss special recognition options.

Phone: (860) 328-5906.

Thank you for your Generosity and may God reward you a hundredfold!