

**Benedictine Monastery of the Good Shepherd**  
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**December, 2022**

Our dear Family,

Peace+ to your loved ones during a hectic part of the year.

We want to share a little recap of 2022.

We started the New Year's weekend with Fr. James Blount, SOLT. He is an exorcist and has the gifts of preaching and prophecy. We very much appreciate his ministry and follow his work closely.

In addition, our monastery sponsored several retreats this year, including, A Father's love, a men's retreat. Also, Protecting the Family, on spiritual warfare, two Grief Retreats, a Life in the Spirit seminar and a Benedictine Oblate retreat with Abbot James Wiseman, OSB from St. Anselm's Abbey in Washington, D.C. It was a great hit!

We also welcomed groups sponsored by the local parishes in Escobares and Roma, Texas. La Grulla had multiple retreats for men, women and teens. Members from Olmito brought their youth for the first time.

Rachel's Vineyard does a wonderful service helping individuals who have had abortions and who are seeking healing and reconciliation. The Flame of Love movement invited three Sisters from Florida to lead their retreat.

We are happy to provide hermitages for couples, singles and women's groups. These have been used through the years for silent retreats and this year has been no exception.

We had the opportunity to open the doors to twenty persons from Operation Border Health. They stayed here for one week. Also, six priests from the Hearts of Jesus and Mary were here for a retreat. Both groups were beautifully cared for through the loving meals that our Benedictine Oblates provided for them. We will also be welcoming three Lumen Christi catechist Sisters from different countries for their annual retreat.

Our radio station, KSGS, an affiliate of EWTN, has been in existence for ten years and we are very grateful for our Oblates who run the station day to day. Our volunteers were presented with an award at the annual meeting for EWTN at their Phoenix meeting.

We have been blessed with our dear Sister Luella who is 95 years young and in good health. We will be celebrating her life for the entire rest of the year.

**NOW to announce a major project** that we are undertaking, partially due to the water shortage throughout the whole world. Our area here in South Texas has its water source from Falcon Dam which is registering at 14%.

We had a Ranch Water Locator from Laredo come and he has found a sizable "mini-river" over by our tractor shed. The drilling, along with all the accessories, is expected to be about \$45,000. We invite you to assist in the "***Water Well Project***" as you are able to manage. For those who want to help, we will include you in a Novena of Masses from January 1-9, 2023!

We Sisters lovingly remember you in our daily prayer and are ever grateful for the prayer, time and financial help you have given for the Good Shepherd's work here!!! May these upcoming seasons be very graced for you and your family!

May your Christmas be filled with the comfort and joy of know God is With US, in good times and in trying times!!

Prayerfully,

Your Good Shepherd's Handmaidens  
Sister Luella, Fran and Nancy