

Five members of Mount Angel Abbey celebrate anniversaries

Staff and news service reports

ST. BENEDICT - Five members of the Mount Angel Benedictine community will celebrate major anniversaries next month.

Father Bernard Sander (60 years), Father Athanasius Buchholtz (50 years), and Brother Claude Lane, Father Nathan Zodrow and Father Jeremy Driscoll (all 25 years).

Abbot Joseph Wood and the rest of Mount Angel Abbey join the celebration as the five jubilarians renew their monastic vows Sunday, Sept. 12, at 10:30 a.m. in the Abbey Church.

Father Bernard Sander took his simple vows as a monk on Sept. 8, 1939. He grew up on a dairy farm in Tillamook. He entered the novitiate Sept. 7, 1938, and made solemn (permanent) vows Sept. 12, 1942.

Father Bernard was ordained in 1944, at age 25. He has been the abbey vocation director and has worked with the seminary. In 1988 he received the first Lumen Gentium Award, presented by Mount Angel Seminary. He was guest master of the abbey retreat house from 1970 to 1993 and is director of the Oblates of St. Benedict of Mount Angel Abbey since 1981.

Father Athanasius Buchholz grew up in Mount Angel and made his simple profession Sept. 8, 1949, and his solemn profession Sept. 12, 1952. He received a licentiate in sacred theology from Sant' Anselmo in Rome and taught at Mount Angel Seminary.

As a gardener, he won national awards for his daffodils in 1982 and 1984. He has had a variety of monastic assignments since the late 1960s, and particularly enjoys working with books. He has contributed many valuable volumes to the Mount Angel Abbey Library.

Brother Claude Lane, Father Nathan Zodrow and Father Jeremy Driscoll made their first monastic profession on Sept. 8, 1974.

Brother Claude has known Father Nathan Zodrow since high school, when they both went to Mater Cleri Seminary, near Spokane, Wash.

Brother Claude, an iconographer, has worked in the library as a bookbinder and studied iconography under Michael O'Brien at the annual artists' retreat at the abbey. In 1989 he became manager of Benedictine Press, and in 1991, Abbot Peter Eberle asked him to work full-time on icon commissions, which he has done ever since.

Father Nathan has worked at Benedictine Press and been postulant director for the

abbey. He has worked in the alumni and public relations office of the seminary and is vice rector of the seminary.

He has served several terms on the Abbot's Council. In 1997 Nathan entered a doctoral program in Catholic educational administration at University of Dayton, Ohio. He hopes to graduate in May 2000.

Father Jeremy Driscoll has studied patristics in Rome and teaches in the seminary. He earned his doctorate, summa cum laude, in 1990. He has been junior master for the abbey and has spoken to the World Conference of Abbots about monastic formation.

Gifts in honor of Father Bernard, Father Athanasius, Brother Claude, Father Nathan, or Father Jeremy may be sent to the Mount Angel Abbey Jubilee Fund, Development Office, St. Benedict, OR 97373.