

## **TO THE PARISHIONERS AT SEAS FROM FR. ROBERT SCHALLER**

The Benedictine Sisters of St. Bede's Monastery in Eau Claire, WI have had a profound impact in the life of the Church in the Diocese of La Crosse. They taught in many of our schools (including St. Patrick's in Onalaska, where I attended eight years) and still serve among us. We at SEAS have been particularly blessed by the presence and service of Sr. Bridget and Sr. Jean. Mindful of that service, I wish to convey to you the following letter from the Prioress of St. Bede Monastery.

Dear Friends at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,

For ten years now, we, the Sisters of Saint Bede Monastery, (the mother-house for Sister Bridget and Sister Jean) have been prayerfully discerning the future to which God is calling us. Taking many things into consideration, we made the decision in March to transfer our profession of stability to Saint Benedict's Monastery, St. Joseph, Minnesota, who founded us in 1948. They have graciously honored our request. This transfer to St. Benedict Monastery will take place at St. Benedict's Monastery at St. Joseph, Minnesota on Sunday August 15, 2010. Though we will be members of Saint Benedict's Monastery, not all of us will immediately be moving there. Our sisters, presently in ministries, like Sister Bridget and Sister Jean, will remain where they are serving. Some of our sisters have already moved, and it is expected that more will be moving this summer.

Saint Bede Monastery is a corporation recognized by the State of Wisconsin and will remain so until the property is sold. In the meantime there will be a core group of us who will remain at Saint Bede Monastery in order to continue the ministry of our Retreat and Conference Center. We are working with parties who are interested in the purchase of Saint Bede's and who desire to continue the ministry of the Center. All who have already scheduled events at the Center will be welcomed by us. We will gladly schedule events for those planning upcoming retreats or conferences.

We are most grateful to you, the people of the Parish of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, to your pastor, Fr. Robert Schaller and to your former pastors for your ongoing support, concern and care.

Be assured of our continued prayers.

Sister Michaela Hedican, OSB, Prioress and Sisters