



## The Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will



“Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them;  
for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs.” *Luke 18:16-17*



How easy it is, even when sincerely trying to do God’s Will, to focus only on what we need and lack rather than what we have already been given. So as we enter the last few days of waiting and preparing for the coming of Our Little Savior, we wanted to share with all of you a small piece of the Advent sacrifice we chose for this year... a sacrifice of thanksgiving. To the One through whom “all things came into being” (John 1:3). To the King of Kings and Father of Fathers who grants His children even that which He denied Himself and His Own Mother.

*“...and She brought forth Her firstborn Son, wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” (Luke 2:7)*



### In thanksgiving for a place to lay our heads...



Father Germano Tomasetti to donate their family home to the Diocese of San Marino-Montefeltro over a century ago. Pastor of Talamello at the time, Father Francesco sought to cultivate a religious presence in his small parish by housing a community of Salesian Sisters in what was later nicknamed the “Casa Tomasetti”. Wanting to ensure that God’s Will for the house would continue beyond their earthly lives, the two brothers, guided by the Holy Spirit, included a specific clause in the contract before permanently

...and the chain of Divine Providence that inspired Father Francesco Tomasetti and his brother

bequeathing the property to the Diocese: the “Casa Tomasetti” must only be utilized for religious purposes; and the use or sale of it for any other reason would render the contract null and void. Though the Salesian Sisters thrived here for several decades, teaching the children of Talamello, caring for the local Sanctuary, and supporting the parish with their prayers, the house once again became silent when the last sister passed away more than fifty years ago.

However, the Tomasetti dream did not die as Divine Providence continued to prepare the way for the coming of a new religious community. Over the years, both the Diocese and the Parish of Talamello invested some money in roof and floor repairs, using the house for a few annual church functions. But last year, after each of our leads for a permanent home resulted in dead ends, Talamello’s current pastor, Don Armando Evangelisti, was more than willing to offer his parochial house to this new group of American sisters. Upon approval of our former bishop, Mons. Luigi

Negri and Diocesan Administrator Don Elio Ciccioni, the Benedictine Daughters finally found a place to plant their roots.

As they say, hindsight always has 20/20 vision. Only now can we clearly recognize the Lord's work in all the events that have unfolded for our community this past year. Each disappointment and roadblock placed before us in our search for a convent was all God's Will leading

### Central Talamello all lit up for Christmas



us to the place *He* had already prepared according to His Divine Plan. May the Lord be blessed in every situation, whether difficult or easy, joyous or sorrowful, whether we understand it or not...for God is a whole lot smarter than we are (another reason to be thankful!). We are not called to understand God's ways, but to trust in Him with childlike faith. And one who trusts also loves because he knows that he is loved with the Infinite and Never-failing Love of a Father. Thank you, Abba, for making us Your children!



## In thanksgiving for the coming of Jesus...

...in the Blessed Sacrament every day at Holy Mass and for His continuous presence in the manger of our tabernacle. Although we must continue to wait for Our Lord's birth this Advent season and His future coming in glory, let us never forget that He has not abandoned us to wait alone, but remains with us always in the Eucharist – Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity – yearning for our coming to Him. May we be like the simple shepherds at Bethlehem, recognizing and adoring Our King and Creator, who in His profound humility, has chosen to dwell among us in a way that the world just cannot comprehend. In every Holy Communion we receive and every moment we spend in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, may we never lose that joy of Christmas morning...for "the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us!" (John 1:14)

## In thanksgiving for our new bishop...

After almost a year of praying and waiting, a new bishop has finally been named to the Diocese of San Marino-Montefeltro. Father Andrea Turazzi, currently the pastor of Holy Family Parish in the neighboring Diocese of Ferrara and former spiritual director of its minor seminary, will be officially ordained a bishop and take up his new pastoral role in our diocese this January. Please join us in praying for Fr. Turazzi and all of the shepherds of Holy Mother Church, that they may lead their flocks straight to the Heart of Jesus through the arms of Our Lady.





## In thanksgiving for our instruments of Divine Providence...

...all of you who have helped us this year with your financial support, time, labor, and most especially with your prayers. Because of your kindness, our rooms are furnished, our windows are ready for the winter, and our chapel has been transformed into a little piece of Heaven. We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank an anonymous donor who has so generously offered to pay for the installation of our new heating system – an unexpected but necessary expense estimated to cost around \$24,000. Please join us in praying for him, his family, and all of our benefactors, that in their giving they may receive...in this life and in the one to come.

If you feel the Lord calling you to be His instruments of Divine Providence for the Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will, checks or money orders can be sent to the following address...

***The Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will***  
**PO Box 1002**  
**Hanceville, AL 35077**

OR donate online by credit card at...

[www.benedictinesofdivinewill.org](http://www.benedictinesofdivinewill.org)

You can now sign up to make automatic monthly contributions through the "Donations" page of our website. When donating by credit card, simply check the box "Make this recurring (monthly)" to have an amount of your choice automatically debited from your account every month.

No amount is too small, for the Lord always seems to use the little to accomplish the big.



*The Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will* would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas filled with lots of peace and joy! We sincerely appreciate the love you have shown to our community these past three years and we assure you of our continuous prayers for you and all of your intentions.