**CSL COUNCIL MEETING**

**December 10, 2024**

**Present: Abbess Martha, Brother Raymond, Brother Jean Baptiste, Sister Mary Magdalene, Brother James Rafael, Sister Anah Elizabeth, Sister Marie Patricia, Brother Ronan, Brother Daniel**

**Guests: Andi Sibley, Sister Julian, Sister Gianna**

**Opening Prayer:** Sister Anah Elizabeth

**Finance Report:** Sister Mary Magdalene presented the financials noting that the investments are doing well. In November the financials were off about $4,000, but we are not overspending. Pledges are down but expected to catch up at the end of the year. Seventy-one percent of the pledges are in as of this month.

**2025 Budget:** The Abbess will meet with Sister Mary Magdalene and Brother Jean Baptiste to draft the new budget which will be presented at the January Council meeting. The Council will vote on the Budget at the January 14th meeting, and it will be presented to Chapter on January 25th meeting.

**Web Site:** The Abbess reported the log of our web site showed 4 more hours of usage than we had paid for, so we owe them about $400. The 2025 budget will budget for the more accurate number of hours required. Brother James Rafael made a motion to allow payment up to $500 for the extra web hours without having to come back to the Abbess for permission; seconded by Brother Jean Baptiste; approved by the Council.

**Retreat Centers:** The Abbess told the Council that both new Convocation sites are requesting down payments well in advance. At Bon Secours it is 30% of attendance. Brother Jean Baptiste made a motion to allow Sister Madeleine Sophie to pay up to $3100 for Convocation expenses; seconded by Brother Ronan; approved by the Council.

**Porter’s Report:** Brother David sent out three applications in November and has followed up with ten people. The Abbess has received four applications for 3 Novice Oblates and 1 Postulant who is a former member.

**Formation:** Brother James Rafael reported the general fellowship night for September was moved to Saturday, Dec. 21 at 6 PM on ZOOM and will help new members to get to know one another. Brother William Marian will join the Formation Committee. Deans will make sure everyone knows about the importance of attending Chapter for all members.

**Worship/Convocation:** The Council was told about the new Convocation sites which are not as lenient as Conception was, but that it is not unusual for them to ask for 20-30% cost of the attending members. Therefore, we can add rooms but not reduce the number so it is important to register if attending the Convocation.

**November Minutes:** Brother Ronan made a motion to accept the November minutes; seconded by Brother Daniel; approved by the Council.

**Old Business:** Deans will meet to see the new habits and the detailed instructions for ordering. The Abbess will send out a note about attending the Chapter meeting on January 25 at 2 PM.

**New Business:** The Council members needing to be reelected or replaced will be done in break-out rooms at Chapter. The members are: Brother Ronan, Brother Daniel, Sister Marie Patricia, and Sister Anah Elizabeth.

**Open Session ended and Guests were asked to leave.**

**Closed Session Ended.**

**Next Meeting will be Tuesday, January 14, at 5 PM Central time.**

**Closing Prayer:** Brother James Rafael

**The Meeting ended at 6:15 CT.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sister Marie Patricia, OSB