

# WESTON PRIORY

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SPRING/SUMMER 2008

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## The Renewal of Life Simply Bursting Forth

*God's love stoops at our feet  
to bathe our weary lives.  
The One who is Lord is servant to each,  
and we are friends, not slaves.*

*His words are spirit and fire;  
His hands the touch of God.  
"Lord, to whom else shall we go?  
You have the words of life." <sup>1</sup>*

In this beautiful spring season—season of the Spirit of Pentecost and new life—we send the warmth of peace and hope in the midst of a world so full of turmoil, yet groaning and longing for the renewing touch of healing and love.

In each season, creation is for us a parable of the renewal of life simply bursting forth from apparently dry, lifeless soil and from barren, naked limbs.

Because we are so much a part of nature, so also, even amidst our seeming limitations and diminishments, astonishing gifts emerge from a deeper spirit that leave us in awe, humbly grateful for life's freely given, uncreated grace.



With this bulletin, two of these gifts have come from our brother Philip and from Sister Laura

Bufano, CSJ. Brother Philip's on-going reflections about his experience, particularly during Holy Week this year, are profound. He offers a gift of "spirit and fire" to so many of us, as testified from the response

to his article in the previous bulletin (December 2007) about his accepting and living with the

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# BULLETIN

diagnosis of ALS during those months. We remain deeply grateful for this gift of the S(s)pirit.

The simple gift of friendship that Sister Laura has offered us over many years further gifted us through her musical ability and sensitivity, as she accompanied us by directing our most recent recordings. Recently she so caringly wrote about her experience with us, that we wanted to share these reflections with you.

In this journey, knowing the guiding presence of the S(s)pirit, we open ourselves in trust to unexpected blessings that will continually surface and emerge in the abundance of summer's flowering, in the fruitfulness of autumn's harvest, and in the restfulness of winter's peace. God is truly teaching us to stoop and bathe our lives with the refreshing waters that gush forth even from rocks in the wilderness. Some of this gift we hope to share with you in these pages and through the days of our life ahead. ☒

<sup>1</sup> From the song "Feast of Beauty," from the recording *Pilgrimage of the Heart*, © 2007 The Benedictine Foundation of the State of Vermont, Inc.



*Springtime at the priory.*