

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We are grateful for the contributions of the other Benedictine women who were instrumental in establishing the House of Bread Monastery and to the Queen of Angels Monastery from which they came. These include: Sisters Augusta Marie Raabe, Roberta Dyer, Anne Ryan, Susan Casey, Judith Hennigan, Eileen Kramer, Jill Aigner, and Claudia May.

We give thanks for our deceased Sisters and Associates, including Sisters Augusta Marie, Jill, Phyllis, and Claudia, and Associates Bernard de Aguiar, Muriel Clemenger, and Sarah Shaw.

We give thanks for all those women and men, many gathered here today, and many others with us in spirit, who gave of their time, talent, and finances to make it possible for us to be a Benedictine presence on Vancouver Island and beyond.

We are grateful for the Oblates and Associates of the House of Bread who have taken the Rule of Benedict as their guide in life and who have been so supportive over these years.

We give thanks for having had the opportunity to operate and own the Bethlehem Retreat Centre from 1987–2015 and so made it possible for seekers to find a spiritual home.

We are grateful for the friendship and support of Bishop Remi De Roo, who journeyed with us from the beginning. We also recall Fathers Kevin Wiseman, John Greene, André Dion, and other celebrants of our weekly Mass at the Bethlehem Retreat Centre over many years.

Concluding Prayer

It is with grateful hearts that we gather here today to celebrate 50 years of living, praying and serving. We appreciate all of you who have come to help us celebrate this milestone in our history. Know that we will keep you daily in our prayers and we trust that you will do the same for us. Amen.