

Merry Christmas!

Happy New Year!

December 2024

*Dearest Brothers and Sisters, May you know the Joy of the Christ Child in your hearts today!*

**What a grace** to back away from all the political goings on, the national and international concerns about war, economic woes, hurricanes, and distressful news of all sorts, in order to focus on the one thing that matters: the **birth of the Prince of Peace**. What a joy! lives into one big act of Love. As Pope our hearts! May the first movements of

**News:** The past 6 months have been in-**Helenius**) died on August 30, surrounded May he rest in peace. On September 27 with a vengeance. We on the eastern side that toppled tons of trees and powerlines, areas west and north of us suffered with deadly results. We believe that our blessed property—which suffered only minor damage—was protected by the angels. May the Lord have mercy on all those who lost so much.



May His Peace embrace us and transform our Francis says in his latest encyclical: We are our hearts be that of adoration and gratitude!

In October we went to the **Truth Speakers Conference** in Virginia that hosted the team from Countdown to the Kingdom plus **Fr. Chris Alar**. What a great gathering of faithful Catholics. It was a blessing to meet **Mark Mallett, Daniel O'Connor, Christine Watkins, and Christine Bacon** after having followed their website for some time and read Christine Watkins famous best-seller, *The Warning*. God bless them for all they do for Christ and His Church. Incidentally, Christine Watkins interviewed M. Gertrude about her views on the Warning, which is available as a one minute video on the Queen of Peace Media YouTube page under “Shorts.”

**At home:** as foretold in the summer *Pelican*, we obtained **two more cows** to keep little Herbie (whom we bottled fed for 4 months) company in the pasture: **Angelo**—another Jersey cow, and **Happy** (born on New Year’s Eve)—a Red Angus/Hereford mix heifer that we’ll keep to breed our own cows. We had our usual meat chicken harvesting day in early November (special thanks to Valerie and her hard-working boys!) and stored up about **50 large broilers** in the freezer. As you can guess, we never have to buy meat for our meals.

**Upgrades:** We replaced **deck boards** on our back porch and side stairs with the low maintenance composite type (no more painting!) and replaced the **kitchen cabinets** in the guest area with sturdier ones (thanks to the Knights of Columbus!). We also had a **new septic system** installed in October. The old one was deemed too old and insufficient for the size of the house and the number of guests we have. We heartily thank the **kind donors** who made this project possible. In fact, **we thank all our dear friends and benefactors** who have been so good, supporting us by prayer, donations or stepping forward to help in various ways this past year. You are a viable part of our little monastery and we never forget to pray for you. God bless each and everyone of you!

May you all have a **very holy and joy-filled celebration of our dear Lord’s birth**. And may His **joy, love & peace** endure in your hearts throughout the New Year. With heartfelt love and prayers,

Mother Gertrude, Sr. Scholastica and Sr. Regina

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Puer Natus Est!  
Onto us a Child is Born

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Our front yard being torn up  
for the new septic system

