



HOLY ASSUMPTION MONASTERY

JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER



Dear Friends,

Do you know the joke about the monk who takes a vow of silence? He is permitted to say two words every five years. After the first five years, he says, "Bed hard." Five years later, he says, "Food bad." Five years after that, he says, "I quit." The superior responds, "I expected that. All you ever do is complain."

The reason we find that joke funny is that we think that the purpose of those two words every five years was to get somebody to change our circumstances – or, as the superior points out – to complain!

If you know us at all, you know that NONE of us have taken vows of silence!!! I do know, though, that five years of silence would be – at best!!! – a complete waste of time if you've spent them thinking of how to get somebody else to fix your life!

That reminds me of our friend Beverly. We met her in a nursing home, some years after she had suffered a stroke. She was all together there mentally, but had great difficulty putting sentences together. However, there were two things that she could ALWAYS say, "Wonderful!" and "Thank you!" In her unchosen silence, the two thoughts she had were of appreciation and gratitude. I'm sure that was because she had spent her entire life marvelling at God's creation and thanking Him for it.

Me? I still speak too much and I still want other people to fix things for me. But I'll take a page from Beverly's book. It's a short book, but it's really hard to beat!

with love in Christ,
Mother Melania & the sisters

ZOO UPDATE - Keeping Their Cool!

It's that time of year again - it's getting hot and the critters need to stay cool.



PHILLY: The great thing about being me is that I'm incredibly handsome and wonderful with and without all that fur!



PETIE & SUNRISE: We love the spray and all the attention, but don't tell our servant that!



THE KOI: The warmer our water gets, the faster our metabolism gets & the more we need to eat. At least, that's the story we've told the nuns, and we're sticking to it!!!!

JUNE CALENDAR

Sunday June 1 & 8 (Pentecost) - 10 am Liturgy
(Sundays June 15 & 29 - tentative)
Sunday June 22 - no services at the monastery

For other services, please see our website

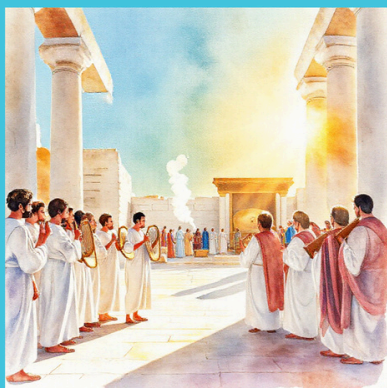
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MOTHER MELANIA'S BOOK UPDATE

Quiz Yourself on the Book of Psalms is now available on Amazon as a Kindle book through the end of June for \$0.99 or as a printed booklet from the monastery for \$4.00.

QUIZ YOURSELF ON THE PSALMS

Quizzes from Easy-Peasy to Mega-Master



MOTHER MELANIA SALEM

Check out the June edition of Mother Melania's Monthly Missive.

Classic Kids' Tales:

The Beginning of the Armadilloes

Poor Painted Jaguar! He needs lunch, but he can't remember what his mom told him. Was he supposed to drop a hedgehog into the water and scoop a tortoise out of his shell? Or the other way around? Stickly Prickly Hedgehog and Slow-and-Solid Tortoise did their best to confuse him about those two little facts! But even that was not enough to save them. So, what DID they do to foil Painted Jaguar's attempts to eat them? And how did it turn out? Join us and find out!

For a free copy of The Beginning of the Armadilloes, [click here](#).

SERVICES AT THE MONASTERY

We are deeply thankful to the priests who give so generously of their time to celebrate the Divine Liturgy



Fr John Christianson - Sunday of the Samaritan Woman



Fr Michael Vladimirov - Midfeast



Fr James Retelas - Sunday of the Blind Man



Fr Aris Metrakos - Ascension