



Weston Priory brothers visiting with Mount Saviour Brothers

Visit to Mount Saviour

IN AUGUST, BROTHERS RICHARD, JOHN, DANIEL AND NHAN travelled to Mount Saviour Monastery in Pine City, New York. Our two communities were founded in the early 1950's by Benedictine monks from Germany sent to the United States by their abbots in the early 1930's as the threat of the Nazi Regime grew in their native country.

The friendship between brother/Abbot Leo and Father Damasus has lived on among the monks of our two communities long after our founders passed away several decades ago. Father Martin Boler served as a Canonical Visitor of the Weston community for many years while he was Prior of Mount Saviour, as in like manner, our brother John served as a Visitor to the Mount Saviour community.

This recent trip was an opportunity to strengthen the bonds of Benedictine brotherhood which had been originally planted by our common origins—the vision of a renewed monastic life that both brother Leo and Father Damasus passed on to us.

In this spirit, the brothers of Mount Saviour gifted the Weston brothers with many photos of previous shared visits and a recording of a presentation offered to their community by a younger Abbot Leo many years ago. The paths continue to evolve in unique ways for each monastery, yet the gift of friendship, respect, and genuine care for each other and the “good zeal” of brotherly love abide.

Our visit was reciprocated in late October when Brother Mark of Mount Saviour came to Weston for a few days marked by laughter and joy. During the last recreation Brother Mark surprised us with a treat of local, Weston-made fudge! It was a festive agape, a delightful spontaneous celebration of past history and hopes for continuing communion. These visits are true times of grace... and our hearts are grateful! ■



(left to right) Brother John, brother Daniel, Brother Mark of Mount Saviour and brother Mark of Weston