

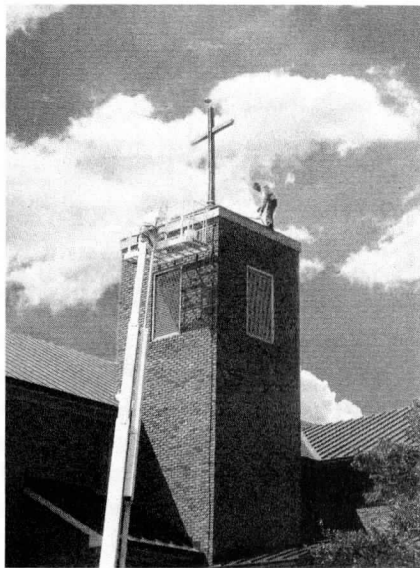
NEW ROOFS

Our Monastery and Church are situated on a rather high and elevated hilltop. The scenery around the monastery is quite beautiful and the panoramic view of the distant hills is indeed lovely. The sunrises and the sunsets (especially the sunsets) are absolutely spectacular. It is all so beautiful, but there is a price we have to pay for all the beauty we enjoy: the WIND! Our poor roofs, shingled with conventual asphalt shingles, have had to be repaired after every storm. The Spring winds were quite troublesome. After every high wind the monks would have to find their way up to the rooftops and make the needed repairs. The Abbot was always most apprehensive about this.

Of late, on several occasions, water has found its way into the Church. Nothing serious, thanks be to God, but something had to be done. To replace the old shingles with the same type of shingles would not solve the problem. After much thought and exploration the monks decided to have heavy-duty metal roofs put on each of our buildings. Thanks be to God, most of the roof surfaces were covered with the new roofing when Hurricane Katrina visited us. Some parts were not yet covered and these suffered quite a bit of damage, with shingles blown hither and yon. Fortunately, there was no water damage inside the buildings. The job is now completed and all the roofs are safely covered with the new roofing. Deo Gratias! □



Finishing touches being put on the new sacristy roof of the Abbey Church



High up in the clouds, as usual, Father Francis helps on the new bell tower roof