

THE BENEDICTINE
MONASTIC

It is not in outward activities such as owning and operating schools, colleges, hospitals, or other public facilities that the real strength of Benedictine monasticism lies. It never has been. Besides, and for example, especially in America, the operation of religious/secular institutes of higher learning has not been a completely satisfactory endeavor. The history of American Benedictine monastic educational institutes of higher learning gives sufficient proof of admirable effort but not lasting success. Several such institutes have closed their doors. What few religious operated colleges remain in existence have had to come under the control of a lay board and must operate according to the norms of accrediting agencies and the regulations of government grants departments. Even the monastic property on which are located the various school buildings and playgrounds has been deeded over to the school board and is no longer owned or controlled by the monastic body.

The direct contribution of Benedictine monasticism to civilization is not, and never has been, education, hospital or other active work. We do not here overlook the very early monastic schools, often small and not of long duration. The main

Please list here your very special INTENTIONS for which you wish our prayers and good works (confidential information) and return to the Abbey BEFORE JUNE 1, 2007. This paper will be kept on the High Altar next to the Tabernacle for the months of the Sacred Heart and the Precious Blood. The Monks, in their daily prayer and work, will remember you and your dear loved ones - both living and departed.

PLEASE CUT ON THE DOTTED LINE AND RETURN