

## "Have you ever entered" the storehouse of Snow?"

From the Desk of Mother Marie Wendy

Job 38:22

Almost! The Lord gave us so much snow that I ended up with my very own "winter recliner!" Now I can say with certainty that God indeed "spreads snow like wool and scatters hoarfrost like ashes" (Ps 147:16).

We were on mission in Teton County, Idaho, and over two days in early November four feet of snow fell. It was the first time I saw a gigantic tractor with a front loader moving piles of snow instead of earth. We also

spotted a magnificent, disgruntled moose just twenty feet from the front door. He was trudging through tall snowdrifts in search of food. Perhaps he smelled my steaming cup of hot chocolate.

There is something mystical and exhilarating about the first snow and "cocooning" inside the house for a couple of days. You think about cloistered nuns who never leave their monasteries and spend all their

days in silence, and contemplation. You think about how they have to put on their thinking caps to come up with fun things to do for recreation time when the community prayers are finished and they finally have the opportunity to speak.

We too had to think about how to spend our newly acquired free time, until we rummaged through the mud room closets and discovered snow boots and ski poles. Out into the elements we went, creating a new path through valleys and hills. What I noticed the most was how quiet, peaceful and pure the world seemed.

When all our exploring was finally done, exhausted and sore, we discovered that we had our own outdoor spa full of fresh air and ice. And so, we sat on this natural "zero gravity" recliner, breathing pure, cold mountain air, watching the red breasted nuthatches flutter from one pine tree to another. At night when the clouds cleared, we would walk out the front door to marvel at the Milky Way with its billions of stars past counting and I reflected on what St. Faustina wrote in her



With the Benedictine Nuns of Gower, MO and our dear friend Jim in Idaho.

Diary that, "the whole universe seemed to me like a tiny drop in comparison with God" (Diary #1121).

Once the deep snow was finally plowed and we could move the car, there was still the challenge of driving down a steep and winding road to reach the valley where we did most of our missionary work.

How magical was that trip among the green pines, through all that glistening white snow! Think about your favorite winter Christmas card and imagine driving through it every day. That was the beauty of the scenery all around us.



The Teton Mountain area that borders both Idaho and Wyoming has become our ongoing mission. Besides the beauty of nature, we have cultivated many friendships and developed quite a missionary apostolate.

We thank you for your support for our missionary work out west and throughout the country. We remember you in our prayers and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

- Mothu Marie Wendy

## The Miraculous Intervention Of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Last Christmas we wrote an article called "God's Timing is within Seconds." It spoke about a beautiful woman we called Naomi who met us on the steps of the church and told us that she had taken an abortion pill. We explained how we had to fight for several hours to get the progesterone pills that could reverse this life-changing mistake.

Meet beautiful, little Allison, a miraculous gift given through the intervention of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Why was this such a miracle? How did Our Lady of Guadalupe intervene?

What we learned after that difficult July summer day explains the reasons. First, we found out that at the very moment that Mother received the inspiration to return to the church, Naomi was inspired to ask for a break from her work so she could run to the church.

Naomi later said that she knew what she had done was a crime and the first place she thought to run to was to a priest. This is how we met on the steps of the church. Who inspired both parties to go to the church at that very moment?

We also discovered that the dosage of pills prescribed by the doctor were much lower than what a pro-life doctor would have given. In fact, we learned that a reversal typically requires shots of 300 milligrams of progesterone for 4 consecutive days and even with that there is only a 67% survival rate.

Our little Allison receive only 100 milligrams for 30 days, far short of the amount needed early on to reverse the first pill and boost the growth of the baby. How did she survive?

Finally, we found out that the doctor who prescribes the abortion pill rarely, if ever, prescribes the reversal pill and yet, this doctor's heart softened just enough to allow for the reversal. Why did that happen?

It happened because in the midst of this seven-hour trial, when time after time, it seemed as though it was "too late," Mother Marie said, "We are going back to the church to put this into the hands of Our Lady of

Guadalupe." It was our rosary and heartfelt prayers of Naomi that Our Lady

heard, and this turned the tide.

We are humbled to have been the chosen instruments of Our Lady of Guadalupe but as Bishop Fulton Sheen said, "Believe in the incredible and you can do the impossible."



Fr. Michael giving house blessings.

## Teton Valley Mission...

As Proverbs 16 says, "The Lord establishes their steps," and truly He guided all our days. In the short span of six weeks in Idaho, we assisted Fr. Michael with house blessings, taught catechism to the Spanish children, introduced the Liturgy of the Hours to parishioners at Good Shepherd Parish, visited the juvenile prison, and met with a young woman who had questions about the faith before her wedding day. All this while dodging snowdrifts and for the very first time in our

lives, ice fog. Ice fog is a unique type of fog found only in the coldest areas of the world where ice crystals hang suspended in the air.

For those who are aware of the Liturgy of the Hours, but who have not "gone into the deep" with this beautiful prayer of the Church, try listening to Sing the Hours. It is available on singthehours.org or on YouTube. The young man who developed Sing the Hours

has a clear and pleasant voice and he sings Lauds (morning prayer) and Vespers (evening prayer).

When we taught the psalms in a Bible Study, many of the attendees said that Sing the Hours is the anchor for their morning and evening and they feel a real sense of peace, hope, confidence, and a deepening of their faith, just what the psalmody is intended to do.



Teaching the Spanish children their catechism.

## ...in a Nutshell.

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