



Graymoor's Well ... a spring of living water!

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE ATONEMENT ~ GRAYMOOR ~ 845-424-3625

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*GRAYMOOR CUI
DISCOVERS GRAYMOOR, NY!*



Dear Friend,

God is always acting in our lives; when we share stories, we have the opportunity to reflect on how we have experienced His presence. We all know that one good story can resonate with many people who have had similar experiences. So our stories also inspire others to say: "I can see now that God was with me in that moment."

Our Sisters never tire of telling stories of our Founders and the early history of our community; they reassure us that God will continue to be with us in the future just as He has been throughout Graymoor's existence. And when we share stories of recent events, we witness God with us in the present. God's love and care is experienced anew. In this issue of Graymoor's Well we are pleased to share the stories of two Graymoors!

Sister Elaine Bernier, SA

Fund Development Director

GRAYMOOR AND MOTHER LURANA

When Mother Lurana White was invited to establish her community at Graymoor, it was initially to help care for St. John Baptist Church, known as St. John's in the Wilderness, and to serve the people of the area. The names of two men prominently involved with the church - built in the 1870's - were immortalized by three ladies who took care of the church. They combined the names of Rev. Gray who built St. John's and Mr. Moore who donated \$500.00 toward the building project. Thus they gave the name "Graymoor" to this area a few miles from Garrison, New York.

Lurana's special love of Gray-1899 she wrote to Father Paul: "We Wednesday evening, but glad today I have tried to let myself go matter how busy one is here, there love it too much?"

On April 30, 1900 she wrote: world, and strangely enough, it is not I alone who have been permitted to 'behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to dwell in His house,' but friends and even just passing guests go away looking back [at Graymoor] as I did that day in Assisi [when she had looked back at Assisi one last time before boarding the train.] It is all a mystery, as have been Our Lord's wonderful dealings with the Society of the Atonement."



moor is expressed in her letters. In arrived home safely rather late beyond words to be back again - down deep into the stillness. No is the peace of silence. I wonder if I

"It is the dearest place in all the not I alone who have been permitted to 'behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to dwell in His house,' but friends and even just passing guests go away looking back [at Graymoor] as I did that day in Assisi [when she had looked back at Assisi one last time before boarding the train.] It is all a mystery, as have been Our Lord's wonderful dealings with the Society of the Atonement."

GRAYMOOR CUI VISITS GRAYMOOR, NEW YORK

Rowena and R.J. Cui, owners of PlanItSound in Alberta, Canada, first came to Graymoor to produce a video about our Sisters for our website. (See it at www.graymoor.org.) They had previously produced programs for our Sisters' ministries in Edmonton, Alberta. Their experience of being at Graymoor, interacting with our Sisters, and learning more about our community, deeply



Red (facing) and Graymoor in Our Lady of the Angels Chapel at Graymoor

impressed them. At the time they had a four year old son named Red. When they were expecting a second son, the name they knew they wanted for him was "Graymoor"

In Edmonton, Sister Lucinda May Patterson kept in touch with them. She spoke with R.J. from the hospital as he awaited his son's birth in December 2018. She told him: "If he is born today - it is also the 120th Anniversary of our community's birth at Graymoor. If he is born today I believe he will be a messenger of peace." That day - December 15, 2018 - was in fact, the day Graymoor Cui was born. His mother who survived serious complications following his birth said: "If I didn't believe in miracles before, I do now! "

This past December, shortly before Graymoor Cui's third birthday, the family made another visit with their sons to the birthplace of the Society of the Atonement. They wanted to re-connect with their love for this holy mountain, and to record the event for their children. They remembered that Sr. Lucinda had told them that for our Sisters " Graymoor is our heart. "



(GRAYMOOR CUI)

Reflecting on their visit, Rowena remarked, "Graymoor is home to us." She and R.J.'s invitation to others: "Find your home, find your peace."



Graymoor & Red at
Father Paul's Tomb



In Loving Memory of
Sr. Mary Ann Conto
1/20/23 - 12/9/21



Sr. Lucinda May Patterson
"Graymoor is our heart."

Dear Friend,

We invite you to continue to support our community and those we serve, creating a rich heritage of stories of God's action in the life and work of our Sisters, and in the lives of those who come to Graymoor to be enriched, renewed and inspired. (We pray for the pandemic to end so that many may once again experience this holy place.)

Your Name: _____ *(February 2022)*

(Please Print)

Address _____

City, State & Zip Code _____

Please check all applicable lines:

- Please add my name to your monthly mailing list.
- Please use the enclosed donation wherever most needed.
- The Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement are included in my Will.
- Please include the following intentions in the *Monthly OLA Novena*:

Please cut this section and return it to: **Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement,
41 Old Highland Turnpike, Garrison, New York 10524**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SISTERS AND OUR MISSIONS, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

WWW.GRAYMOOR.ORG