



Blessing of the Animals

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024

New Skete Monasteries

273 New Skete Lane Cambridge, New York 12816



Dear Friend of New Skete,

**“For many of us, love for creation
deepens through the relationships we form with our pets, particularly our dogs.
By their very nature and need, dogs draw us out of ourselves:
they root us in nature, making us more conscious of the mystery of God inherent in all things.”**

-I&Dog

The Monks of New Skete

All people and the animals they love are welcome! We invite you to New Skete to celebrate with us, in the spirit of the **Feast of St. Francis of Assisi**, patron saint of animals and the environment. Come and enjoy the afternoon with fellow animal lovers, their adored pets and the Monks and Nuns of New Skete. Those in attendance will delight in what we hope will be a day brimming with the sights, sounds and smells of Autumn.

In the sun and shade of the Transfiguration Chapel, those pets in attendance as well as those who reside in our hearts, will be blessed during the special service. All activities are held outdoors with mountain views around us and colorful leaves above us. Not to be missed, delectable refreshments of the season will follow the service on this special day. Check newskete.org for the up-to-date schedule for the day.

During this time of celebration, we ask you to consider a gift in honor of, or in memory of, your pet or other loved one. Your tax-deductible donation of \$25 or more received by October 3rd will be uniquely recognized at the 2024 Animal Blessing. See enclosed form for details.

Your gift today will assist New Skete Monasteries in the areas of most urgent need. This may include costs associated with repairs or renovations for buildings, grounds, equipment, or other necessary projects to the Monks' or Nuns' monasteries or churches. It may also assist with unexpected costs related to health care for the monastics. We are thankful for your continued support and friendship.

Remember to bring, send, or email photos of pets who have passed away or who are not able to attend. We will display and include them in the blessing! Additionally, you are welcome to complete the bottom of the enclosed form to include prayer intentions for loved ones, (both animals and people.)

With the exception of an end of summer and mid-winter retreat, New Skete welcomes guests and visitors throughout the year. Please feel welcome to visit when your schedule allows. May God's blessings be on all of you, and we hope to see you soon!

If you would like further information or if you have any questions please feel free to email or call Karen Gladstone, Director of Advancement and Stewardship karengladstone@newskete.org (518)677-3928 ext. 214.

Yours in Christ's love,

Brother Christopher
Prior, Monks of New Skete

Sister Cecelia
Prioress, Nuns of New Skete