



Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 4, 2025

New Skete

273 New Skete Lane

Cambridge, New York 12816

Dear Friends of New Skete,

... Ask the beasts and they will teach you the beauty of this earth ...

Francis of Assisi

In celebration of the **Feast of St. Francis of Assisi**, patron saint of animals and the environment, we invite you to New Skete for the Blessing of the Animals! All people and the animals they love are welcome!

Rain or shine, together we will graciously receive the wonderful gifts that Autumn offers our senses. In the Meditation garden, amid the Holy Wisdom Church and the Transfiguration Chapel, a special service will be held to bless all pets in attendance as well as those precious animals who will always live in our hearts. Delightful refreshments of the season will follow. 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 \$50 or more received by October 1st will be uniquely recognized at the 2025 Animal Blessing. For details please see the accompanying remit form.

Your gift today will assist New Skete 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 those not able to attend. We will display and include them in the blessing! Additionally, we invite you to complete the bottom of the enclosed form to include prayer intentions for loved ones, (both animals and people.)



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

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

Yours in Christ's love,

Br. Christopher

Brother Christopher
Prior, Monks of New Skete

Sr. Cecelia

Sister Cecelia
Prioress, Nuns of New Skete