

ABBEY ANNUAL FUND

Dear Friends of Subiaco,

The name Subiaco comes from St. Benedict's first monastery in Italy, which was located sub lacum, "below the lake" built centuries before at the nearby summer villa of the Emperor Nero. Here at Subiaco in Arkansas we began to live up to this name physically when our three reservoir lakes were built a mile south of the Abbey in the late 1940s. They are higher than the top of the monastery and so we are "sub lacum."

The lakes were the final project of the legendary Father Eugene Knoff (d. 1951) for the purpose of assuring a perpetual water supply for the Abbey. When the water treatment plant was opened, the monks offered to supply water to the local residents as well. The lakes began to grow when the gates were closed in the winter of 1948, 60 years ago, and have been providing excellent water for monks and Subiaco town ever since.

Periodically over the years we have updated the water treatment plant because of normal wear and tear but also because of changes in government regulations. Now we are facing a major improvement to keep up with new standards, and we ask your help in continuing to be able to provide water for ourselves and as a service to our neighbors.

Another scene of wear and tear (also going back to the 1940s) is the elevator that serves our Health Center. It has carried generations of monks and nurses and visitors for decades but is coming to the end of its allotted time. The agency has notified us that it will need to be replaced by January, 2011.

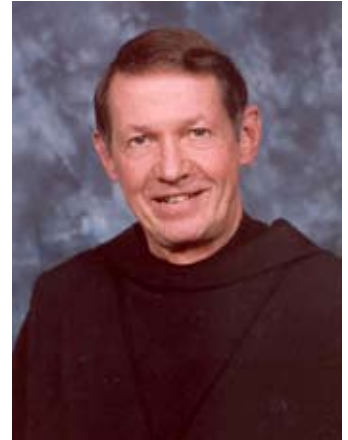
Thanks to your help last year, the majestic retaining wall above the cemetery has been stabilized again. In the process of repair, we had to remove the pine grove and the popular Stations of the Cross. Now we are ready to return the Stations, making them a focus for landscaping and planting the area between Coury House and the Abbey cemetery.

These updating projects put us in touch with earlier stages of our history and the monks who preceded us at those times, but it also recalls to mind friends like yourselves who supported those projects and made them possible. We counted on them, and now we are blessed to be able to count on you as we work together for the glory of God at Subiaco.

Sincerely in Christ,

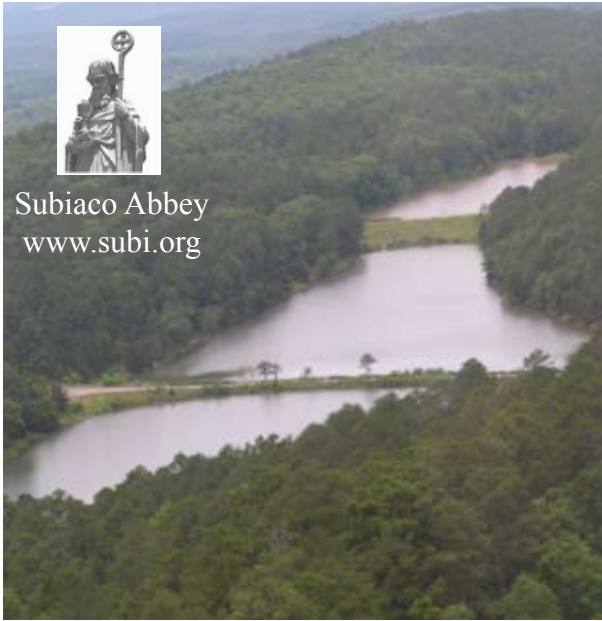


Abbot Jerome Kodell, O.S.B.





Subiaco Abbey
www.subi.org



Above: The Abbey water supply lakes from the air, built in 1948

Below: First lake full of water for use by the Abbey and town of Subiaco



Above: The old elevator which serves the Health Center to be removed by 2011

Below: The Stations of the Cross awaiting reconstruction

