



## RETREAT - CHAPTER 2021

We gathered for a couple of hours each day--May 3, 4, and 5. This certainly wasn't our ideal and yet it was a joyful and prayerful event.

Here are a few highlights.



The Rev'd Elizabeth Schellingerhoudt, OA took the Promise a second time as she became Life Professed. [Here's the rite.](#) She began this journey in September 2014. Sister Liz received a Master of Divinity degree from Candler School of Theology, Emory University and was [ordained a priest on February 21, 2010 at St. Bartholomew's](#), Atlanta in the Diocese of Atlanta. Liz is rector of St. Clare's Church, Blairsville, GA. Her husband, Kees, was present and hung the Cross of the Order around her neck.

### *The Promise*

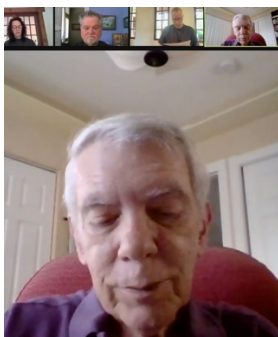
To seek the presence of Jesus Christ in the people, things and circumstances of life through stability, obedience and conversion of life.

Each session began with Morning Prayer (adapted for Zoom use). On Monday the Office included Sister Liz's taking of the Promise and on Wednesday the Renewal of the Promise by all the Professed. Each Office also included a reflection by the three members informally referred to as "the seniors." Monday was Brother Lowell Grisham on stability, Tuesday Brother Scott Benhase on obedience, and Wednesday was Brother Robert Gallagher on conversion of life.



Chapter continued from our last Zoom meeting. Significant actions at these meetings included:

- Voting to accept the Rt. Rev'd Poulson Reed into the novitiate. Brother Poulson will take the Promise in the coming weeks.
- Took action to restructure Ascension Press to produce ebooks and on-demand printing. All members are involved in helping with the transition. Several out-of-print books have been put in PDF form and are available on the Ascension Press page (at no charge). There are also at least five new books in the works.
- Sent our love and greetings to Brother Jeremy Bond who was unable to attend because of health issues.
- Agreed to continue our monthly zoom sessions. Each session will be devoted to spiritual life, skill development, chapter, or social connection.



We were delighted that Bishop Barry Howe was able to be with us for all three days participating in all our activities, receiving the Renewal of the Promise and offering a blessing ended our time together.