



**SCHITZLEHEN 1, 84556 KASTL,
GERMANY**

SECOND NEWSLETTER FOR NOVEMBER 2013

29th November 2013

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

Our new monastery holds surprises in abundance ready for us: that there is no door bell, that the door handles are so accommodating that one has to run after the postman holding them in one's hand, that if one wants to replace a light bulb one has to smash the lampshade because it is immovably tight... are still the minor ones. One hangs for example a bell in the hall and asks the visitors to ring when they enter – we wear our big, black veils which replace our enclosure, so long as we cannot build it!

More imagination is required for problems such as the sewage plant: First, somebody notified us that the septic tank is overflowing and no sanitary facilities could be used any more. Hardly had the prohibition been issued, when a tractor from a helpful neighbour rattled into our garden to empty the tank – Deo Gratias! But merely eight days later the tank was full again and on top of that the toilet – the only one in the whole farmhouse – blocked ... In addition, we are neither allowed to use the existing septic tank nor the cesspool in the courtyard in the long run – only farmers are allowed to do that. After all, the council is so insightful to allow a temporary usage until we have managed to build a correct and appropriate sewage plant – the connection to the public sewer is not possible because of the distance. This is therefore the second building project which cannot be avoided.

The first was already the creating of a makeshift path around the house, because the path to the house entrance and to the chapel led through high grass and such uneven ground that falls of our visitors were inevitable. This difficulty was resolved first – thanks to your help!

Now you are surely interested to know how things stand regarding our chapel. The initial provisional arrangement, which has the chapel in the workshop, will have to last for a little bit longer than initially planned. Before we are able to move with it to the first floor, it must not only be prepared. First of all we have to think of the interior fittings of the future living rooms of our chaplain who still has to live outside the monastery and in order to have cheap lodgings is continually moving house. The roof meanwhile has been shored-up so that with sufficiently modest amounts of snow – help us to pray – it can survive a transitional period.

You can see how precious for us any donation is, which won't be used for a comfortable life, but which just serves for the bare essentials. For the sake of our vow of poverty, we make grateful use of the opportunity to practise self-denial in every way – especially as sacrifice for your intentions, which

are constantly close to our hearts!

Our Lady of Altötting will know how to fill every giving hand abundantly again, of that we are confident.

Your grateful sisters of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.