March 22, 2022

Dear Friends,

In Isaiah 43:2 we read: *When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flowers will not set you ablaze.*

The entire world is witnessing the devastation occurring in Ukraine. We weep and mourn for those who have suffered to the point of death; for those left homeless; for those who are fleeing to safer grounds.

On my last visit to Ukraine this past October I was so happy to see the progress that had been made since my previous trip in the 90’s. The Sisters had not only rebuilt their monasteries in L’viv, Yavoriw and Ivano-Frankivsk but their ministry and outreach to the faithful was flourishing and effective.

It is devastating to see the ruins and destruction being wrought by the current invasion by Russia. Thankfully our Sisters are safe and being supportive of the people of Ukraine. In L’viv they provide a safety net by offering sanctuary in the monastery from the bombs and explosions. Our Sisters in Poland are welcoming them with open arms and hearts. In Romania caravans delivering food and hope are being organized by our sisters. Food and hope make trips over the border with humanitarian aid. At this troubling time there is a cheerful and generous response.

Like so many organizations giving aid to those in need of this assistance needs to be funded. And so, I turn to you, our faithful benefactors and ask for your help in this time of dire need.

Whatever you can afford will go toward this noble endeavor. We promise that your generosity will be remembered in our daily prayers here in the monastery in America and by our Sisters in Ukraine and throughout the world.

I am assured that the Lord will not forsake us. Ukraine’s glory has not yet died, nor has her freedom. Long live Ukraine!

Gratefully in the Lord,

Sister Joann Sosler, OSBM

Provincial Superior