

SPECIAL TO THE
CATHOLIC REVIEW

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ARCHBISHOP O'BRIEN CELEBRATES RE-OPENED CHAPEL
AND RESTORED ORGAN AT BON SECOURS SPIRITUAL CENTER

Archbishop Edwin O'Brien, Archbishop of Baltimore, celebrated the reopening of the Provincial Chapel of the Sisters of Bon Secours and the rededication of the chapel's newly restored pipe organ at the Bon Secours Spiritual Center in Marriottsville on Thursday, October 30.

With Sister Alice Talone, CBS, President of the Sisters of Bon Secours U.S.A., and the members of the community gathered for the Provincial General Assembly, Archbishop O'Brien rededicated the chapel and blessed the new appointments, including a newly constructed wall of finished stone, a new gathering space in the rear of the chapel and a new welcoming font at the chapel's entrance.

In his homily, the archbishop remarked that an organ was always considered the best possible choice of musical instrument in the Catholic liturgy. He expressed his pleasure that the sisters had chosen to conserve and rehabilitate the organ, which had been in service in the chapel for 40 years. Their decision, he added, demonstrated good taste, good sense and the proper respect for the Creation and for the gifts God has bestowed on us.

Sr. Alice remarked that the dedication ceremony marked a continuation of the sisters' intention to make their Provincial House and the Spiritual Center an ongoing resource for spiritual growth of our region and for the churches of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

More than 70 persons attended the inaugural concert following the dedication service. Performing on the organ was John Peragallo III, an owner of the Peragallo Pipe Organ Company, which undertook the instrument's restoration.

The Sisters of Bon Secours plan a series of organ concerts in 2009 to celebrate the organ's return and to encourage the use of the pipe organ in a variety of musical styles. For more information, contact Dr. Thomas E. Little, Executive Director, at 410-442-1320, or visit the Center's website at www.bonsecoursspiritualcenter.org.