

Sankt Sigfrids Ermitage

NEWSLETTER

October 2025



Dear Friends and Benefactors!

It has been a long time since I last shared news about St. Sigfrid's Hermitage. Therefore, I would like to send you a slightly longer Newsletter with information about the adventures of the past few months. If you would like to support the Hermitage, you will find all the practical information on the last page. Thank you very much for your help! May God be glorified in all things!



THE CROSS

Nothing worthwhile ever comes easily. The higher the goal, the greater the resistance one will encounter. This is true in the natural order, but even more so in the supernatural order, where the eternal salvation of mankind is the stake in the unceasing battle between the forces of light and darkness, between good and evil, between God and Satan. *'For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms'* (Eph. 6:12). Spiritual life is a battle, and the way to heaven is narrow. The trials are many. But *'he who stands firm to the end will be saved'* (Matt. 24:13). Perseverance is perhaps one of the most important things in spiritual life. *'Patience achieves everything,'* writes Teresa of Avila. And the greatest example of patience is the Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Through his suffering and death on the Cross, Jesus conquered sin and achieved the salvation of the whole world. Only by *'taking up our cross and following Jesus'* (cf. Matt. 16:24) can we also be victorious. St. Benedict wants his monks to *'prefer nothing to the love of Christ'* (Rule 4:21) and suffering is a very good litmus test to see if our love for him is genuine and selfless. He opens his sacred Heart to us as a place where we can experience his indescribable love. But it is always a pierced Heart as well.



St. Sigfrid's Hermitage wants to spread God's love to all souls in the world, especially here in Sweden and Scandinavia. However, the unexpected trials of recent months were a reminder that great things can only be achieved through the Cross. At the same time, during this difficult period, we have also experienced daily the goodness of our Lord Jesus Christ, who encourages us with comforting and hopeful words: *'In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world'* (John 16:33); *'Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you'* (Matthew 7:7). Likewise, we have been able to experience the help and protection of the Virgin Mary. She who says to Juan Diego and to all of us: *'Am I not your Mother, and am I not here?'* and to the children of Fatima: *'In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph.'*

I am personally deeply grateful for the support I have received from so many people. In particular, I would like to men-



tion lawyer Carl-Johan Dahlöf, who in recent months has been tirelessly involved in the fight against *‘the mammon of unrighteousness’* (Luke 16:9). My sincere thanks also go to the Catholic Diocese of Stockholm, and in particular to its finance department, which with unparalleled generosity has helped St. Sigfrid’s Hermitage out of a difficult situation.

ST. SIGFRID’S HERMITAGE

Let us begin with some very good news: in the beginning of November, Sankt Sigfrids Eremitage will establish itself on Kinnekulle, Västergötland’s ‘holy mountain’. In our latest Newsletter, we were able to announce the news that we had won the long and very exciting bidding for a very beautiful and suitable property just outside of Gössäter (Fullösa, Götene municipality). Everyone who followed the bidding knows what a thriller it was. But none of us knew that this was only the beginning of a long battle with our bank, who refused to go through with the purchase because of fears of money laundering. We looked for several different alternatives. Time and again, however, we encountered almost inexplicable resistance. But just when we were about to give up hope, an unexpected solution appeared. When we saw no way out, we contacted Cardinal Anders Arborelius and his collaborators at the diocese in Stockholm. They immediately showed their willingness to help! Thanks to the Bishop, the Vicar General and the diocese’s finance department,



department, we will now be able to complete the purchase of the property in Fullösa and the future St. Sigfrid’s Hermitage Foundation will become the full owner. On 7-8 October, the days when we celebrate both St. Bridget and the Rosary, the diocese signed the agreement that we had already agreed upon verbally. Deo gratias! Thank you for all your prayers and support! Without you, it would not have been possible! Now we can really start preparing for the move, which is still planned for the beginning of November. In the next Newsletter,

we hope to be able to show you pictures from the first days at St. Sigfrid’s Hermitage on Kinnekulle!

KINNEKULLE, THE ‘HOLY MOUNTAIN’

St. Sigfrid’s Hermitage is located on the eastern slope of Kinnekulle, in the middle of the pilgrim’s road between Forshem and Husaby, just outside Gössäter.

Kinnekulle, located on the south-eastern shore of Lake Vänern, is one of Sweden’s most beautiful places. Not only because of its scenic surroundings, but above all because of its location in an area that historically can be considered the cradle of Sweden’s conversion. Kinnekulle is sometimes called Västergötland’s ‘holy mountain’ and was once one of Sweden’s foremost pagan places of worship. Through bloody human sacrifices, our pagan ancestors submitted to the demonic idols and were held captive in their chains. But it was also on this place that the Swedes were *‘freed from their slavery’* and *‘attained the glorious freedom of the children of God’* (Romans 8:21). This is where the first



Christians lived and where King Olov Skötkonung was baptised by Saint Sigfrid (our hermitage was named after saint Sigfrid before we found this place!). Many beautiful medieval churches are scattered around the mountain. The meadows where wild garlic spreads its scent throughout the area were owned by Vadstena Abbey, founded by saint Bridget of Sweden. Everywhere, Jesus Christ’s bloodless Sacrifice was renewed on the altar and his Body and Blood were worshipped in the most holy Sacrament.

But after the Protestant Reformation and the neo-pagan Renaissance (as its inevitable consequence...), the Sacrament disappeared from

the holy mountain and Kinnekulle returned to the darkness.

More than anywhere else, Kinnekulle is the place in Sweden where the battle for the salvation of souls is being fought.

You can understand our joy and enthusiasm now that 'White Christ', as the Vikings called Jesus in the Sacrament, is returning to Kinnekulle after all these dark years! We sincerely hope and pray that Christ will open His Heart and spread His love from the Tabernacle at St. Sigfrid's Hermitage to all souls in Sweden and throughout the Nordic countries!

SANKT SIGFRIDS EREMITAGE FOUNDATION

We have now begun to set up a Foundation that can raise funds for the benefit of St. Sigfrid's Hermitage. For benefactors, this Foundation offers financial advantages and also the assurance that the funds will go exclusively to St. Sigfrid's Hermitage and its mission. For us, the Foundation also provides the security of avoiding future problems with our bank. At present, we are still busy with the administrative preparations. We are being assisted by a competent consultant. However, we will soon be submitting our application to the County Administrative Board. Hopefully, the foundation will be registered in 2-4 months.



Kinnekulle Waterfall



Garden surrounding Sankt Sigfrids Eremitage

But there is absolutely no problem in supporting St. Sigfrid's Hermitage with a donation. You can find our bank account details and the link to our Gofundme fundraiser in this Letter. As you know, we receive no financial support from either the state or the Church, and we would therefore be deeply grateful if you could help St. Sigfrid's Hermitage with the following costs:

1. Purchase of missing **liturgical items** necessary for the celebration of Mass : **\$ 1,500**
2. **Operating costs** (water, electricity, heating, etc.): **\$ 350/month**
3. Completion of the **new house** (bathroom, electricity, doors, flooring, etc.) and furnishing of this building as the hermitage **chapel**: **\$ 30,000**



Chapel



Bathroom

My grateful prayers go out to all of you!

With warm fraternal greetings,

Fr. Bengt osb



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Visit our website: <https://sankt-sigfrids-eremitage.se/>

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