

Atchison community mourns loss of religious pillar

(KAIR)--The Atchison community is mourning the loss of one of its most beloved Catholic leaders.

Abbot Barnabas Senecal died Tuesday morning at St. Benedict's Abbey in Atchison at the age of 84.

Several monks and health care workers were present with him when he died.

Abbot James Albers of St. Benedict's Abbey reflects on the legacy of Abbot Barnabas, remembering his service in the local parishes, Maur-Hill Mount Academy, and St. Benedict's and Benedictine College.

"So he really has impacted all of the outreach that we have with the faithful. You can see his fingerprints on all of it - just the subtleness and the way he led us in a community - just a gentleness. [He was] Unexcitable as St. Benedict says an Abbot needs to be. He was an unexcitable person in the sense that he didn't get overly worked up when things were difficult things on this plate."

Vespers for the Dead, followed by visitation, will be prayed on Monday evening at 7 in St. Benedict's Abbey.

The Mass of Christian Burial for Abbot Barnabas will be celebrated in St. Benedict's Abbey Church on Tuesday morning at 10:30.

Vespers for the Dead and the Mass of Christian Burial will be streamed live on the "KansasMonks" YouTube page.

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