



April 2017

Oblate Newsletter

SACRED HEART MONASTERY

Yankton, South Dakota

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Dear Oblates,

Spring is in the air. The earth is greening up again after the recent rains. The brightness of the world is flooded with the many colors of the tulips, crocuses, daffodils, and blossoms everywhere.

We have reached the midway mark of Lent. It is a time for us to reflect on our progress in our journey to Easter. God loves us and wants us to come home; he is waiting for us. Easter is a great time to be open to life, with open minds and hearts. Every day we can attempt to do ordinary things of life in an extraordinary way.



A couple Oblate Novices who became an Oblate in 2016.

Our next Oblate meeting, April 9, 2017, will be our Oblation Ceremonies. I encourage you to attend and either renew your Oblation, be ready for your entrance as an Oblate Novice, or make your Final Oblation. This is a good time to spend some quiet time reflecting on what it means to be an Oblate. When you make your Final Oblation, you become an Oblate for life. There may be times in your life when you can't participate fully as a Benedictine Oblate because of other commitments, some disability, or inability, but you are still an Oblate. You participate as best as you can in your circumstances. Try to make this meeting on Sunday, April 9, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. in Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel.

The joyous event of this Lenten season was the election of Sister Maribeth Wentzlaff as Prioress of Sacred Heart Monastery on March 19, 2017. She will continue as director of Campus Ministry and Mission Director of Mount Marty College until her installation on June, 3, 2017, as the 14th prioress of Sacred Heart Monastery. Thank you for your many prayers during our discernment and election process, and we ask for your continued prayers for Sister Maribeth.

Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in the newness of life. May the new life and new joy of Easter live on in you!

God's Blessings,
Sister Patricia Heirigs



Pin that one will receive upon making Final Oblation

Next Meeting:

Our next Oblate meeting in Yankton will be held this Sunday, April 9, 2017, at 1:00 pm for our Oblation Ceremonies in Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel. For those who are becoming a Novice or making Final Oblation, please come by 12:45 p.m. for a short practice. A reception, which is hosted by the Sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery, will follow the Oblation ceremony in the Sisters' dining room.

Oblate Yankton Meetings 2017:

April 9 | May 21

Upcoming Opportunities: (Further information listed on website)

- **Mark your calendars for our Oblate Retreat this month, April 7-9, 2017 with Father Thomas Hillenbrand, OSB from Christ the King Priory in Schuyler, NE giving the presentations.** He will also be the presenter at our retreat in October 27-29, 2017. The topic will be the same for both retreats, “Five steps to a Vibrant Christian Life.”
- **The Mount Marty Spring Play, “Always a Bridesmaid,”** is scheduled for April 6-9, 2017 at Marian Auditorium. The evening performances on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday start at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday matinée is at 2:00 p.m.
- **Stations of the Cross:** Tuesday, April 11, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. Mount Marty Students will be performing the Stations in Marian Auditorium.
- **The Paschal Triduum** is the final preparation for the Feast of Easter on April 13-16. Paschal Triduum Retreat. Come, enter the silence and experience the rich liturgies of Holy Week with the monastic community of the Benedictine Sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery in Yankton. This retreat begins Holy Thursday, April 13 at 4:30 p.m. and ends 1 p.m. on Easter Sunday, April 16. Conferences on the meaning and symbolism of each day and liturgical event are optional. For more information go to our webpage, www.yanktonbenedictines.org/triduum-retreat/. To register by April 8, e-mail BenedictinePeaceCtr@mtmc.edu or call 605-668-6292.
- **Easter Triduum Schedule:**
The Sacred Triduum is the holiest of all the days in the church year. You are invited to participate with our Monastic Community in an extended time of prayerful silence and liturgical celebration of the passion, death, and the resurrection of Christ.
Holy Thursday, April 13 – Eucharist – 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday, April 14 – Good Friday Services – 3:00 p.m.
Holy Saturday, April 15 – Easter Vigil Services – 8:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday, April 16 – There is no Sunday morning Mass, but morning prayer is at 9:00 a.m.

Prayer Requests:

For Oblate David Hussey who will have surgery

For Sister Joyce Streff who is recovering from carpal tunnel surgery

For Sister Joyce Feterl who is recovering from foot surgery

For Sister Margo Tschetter who is recovering from knee surgery

For all the Sisters who have had colds and the flu

For good vocations to our Monastery

For all the Oblates and their families

Deaths:

Sister Jeanette Klimisch

Bill Mayer— Brother of Sister Janice Mayer

Nathan Pieper — Nephew of Sister Virginia Pieper

Monastery Happenings in March 2017



On St. Patrick's Day several Lucky Irish Leprechauns came to sing for the Sisters. They chose a variety of songs so the Sisters could sing along. Some of their children came also and danced to the music. Everyone had a wonderful time.

Sister Maribeth Wentzlaff, the youngest of five children, born to the late Robert and Marivonne Wentzlaff of Miller SD, was elected our new Prioress on March 19, 2017. Sister Maribeth's words about this sacred time of discernment and election are, "The election process is a very sacred time for a monastic community. It is truly a blessing to be called forth by my Sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery and the Holy Spirit, to serve my community in this ministry. I

am humbled by the affirmation of my Sisters, and their love and support. I feel empowered to journey with them into an exciting and joy-filled future.

The Sisters and their college Prayer Partners had Evening Praise together on March 20, 2017. After prayer, they all enjoyed root beer floats in the Chapter room. (*pictured at right*).

Sister Jeanette Klimisch died very peacefully on March 23, 2017. We would have loved to see the great reunion when she and her twin Sister Jane met in heaven. Her funeral Mass was on Monday, March 27, and many of her nieces and nephew and former students attended.

Gale Walker and his wife Jan, and daughter and son-in-law were special guests for supper at our Monastery on Sunday, March 26, 2017. We wanted to thank him for his 43 years of faithful service in rural healthcare —first as part of our Benedictine Health System and then as part of Avera Health. Gale worked first at St. Michael's Hospital in Tyndall, SD, and later at St. Benedict's Hospital in Parkston, SD. He is retiring as CEO, but plans to stay in Parkston and enjoy some fishing time.



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Additional picture of Monastery Happenings in April 2017.

Sisters Clarice Korger and Erin Colgan attended the Vocation Jamboree at Bismarck, ND where they met with high school and college students.



Below is an acknowledgment of renewal of a previous Oblate made. It is recommended to renew every ____ year(s).



Oblates of St. Benedict



RENEWAL OF OBLATION

I renew my oblation as an Oblate of St. Benedict for the community of Sacred Heart Monastery, Yankton, South Dakota. I promise again to serve God and all people according to the Rule of St. Benedict. Through my daily prayer and work may I be inspired to live in Christ and to bring His love to the world and His peace to all hearts.

Oblate Signature _____

Date _____

Place _____