



Late Fall 2016

May their souls and the souls of all of our dear Oblates rest in peace.

Joe Yungbluth

October 8, 1920—
October 13, 2016

Patricia McGovern

September, 2016

Lectio Schedule

Fourth Saturday

Each month

8:00 Morning

Prayer/Eucharist at the Chapel

9:00 Lectio at the Guest House

Nov. 26

Dec. 31 (5th Sat.)

January 28

February 25

Oblate Meetings

Schedule

Second Sunday of month

November 2016 **13**

December **11**

1:30-3:00 P.M.

January 2017 **8**

1:30-3:00 P.M.

February **12**

1:30-3:00 P.M.

From Brother Jerome, Director

Let all guests be received as Christ.

Dear Oblates,

The Prologue of the Rule tells us to seek God and to have hearts of flesh. The preacher says, "Put God into your life, but the Holy Rabbi says "God is already there." Our task is to realize it. Our running must be intense, and we must be on fire in our pursuit of God.

As we continue our pursuit of God as Oblates, you are called to join us at the Oblate meetings. The winter schedule for the next four meetings is 1:30 -3:00 P.M., November through February.

Our new Oblate Deans, Benita Habib, and Jean Hlavacek have been meeting with me to help plan out the year for the Oblates. More information will be provided on the Retreat, Pilgrimage to Conception Abbey, Book Club, and other events.

Go and encounter God in the Burning Bush, like Moses. You stand on Holy Ground because you are holy. The holiness is within you.

Please prepare the following chapters of the Rule for discussion:

November—Ch. 1—The Kinds of Monks

December—Ch. 4 -The Tools for Good Works

January 2017- Ch. 5—Obedience

February—Ch. 7—Humility

Oblate Book Discussion Group

Please join in the Oblate Book Discussion Group as we begin to read *Humility Matters* by Mary Margaret Funk. The group will meet immediately following the Saturday, November 26th, Lectio Prayer meeting (approximately 10:00 A.M.) We will meet in the Guest House if it's available, otherwise, we will meet in the Abbey. You may purchase the book yourself, or notify Brother Jerome and inform him that you want him to order a book for you. (ISBN#: 978-0-8146-3513-1). The *Forward, Introduction, and Chapter 1* will be discussed at the first meeting.

Contact: Benita Habib (habibtnt@juno.com) 402-238-6496

Jean Hlavacek (jean.jeweler@gmail.com) 402-504-4222

Oblate Ministries

Visit Oblates in care facilities or homebound. 402-332-2986
Francesa Dammerman
(mdammerman@aol.com)

Hospitality: Provide refreshments after meetings; (*Benita Habib -habibtnt@juno.com*)

Work in Guest House or Flea Market. (402-926-2282) *Rita Wolfe*

Abbey: Help with special events, or use a special skill or talent to help the monastic community. (402-206-2069)
Brother Jerome

Ongoing Formation: Mentor an oblate novice; Jean Hlavacek (jean.jeweler@gmail.com) Write an article for the Michaelen or the Oblate Newsletter. *Sharon Nelsen: fsnelsen@gmail.com* 402-630-0269

Prayer Ministry: Brother Jerome Kmiecik 402-206-2069
Abbot Theodore
twolff@mountmichael.org



Randy Rosenthal with mentor Jean Hlavacek at his Oblate profession, October 9, 2016

Welcome, Randy!

Contact Information

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*Listen, Child of God, to
the guidance of your
teacher. Attend to the
message you hear and
make sure that it
pierces to your heart.*

*(Opening words of the Prologue
to the Rule of St. Benedict)*

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Lectio divina” by Rev. Elias Achatz, O.S.B.

How should we read in “lectio divina”? There are just two directives: read slowly and pause often. Today we are accustomed to read great amounts of materials and to read fast. But when we come to do our *lectio* we must proceed slowly...the ancients read aloud. In this way they not only saw the word, they also listened to it, they heard it, they formed it with their mouth, they savored it, they breathed it. All their senses were en-

gaged. The word became a living part of them...Our forebears in the faith repeated the words of scripture over and over in order to memorize them. They wanted to take the word with them so that they could have it at hand throughout the day...We should not try to force our prayer. We should keep it simple. As an English Abbot once said, “Pray the way you can, not the way you can’t.” The easy way is the best way.

St. Benedict says that prayer should be “short and pure unless prolonged under the inspiration of divine grace.” (*Rule, Ch.20*)

Praying lectio

- ◇ Spend a short time in becoming centered with some deep breathing.
- ◇ Pray to the Holy Spirit to guide us in our reading and praying.
- ◇ Make an act of faith.

- 1) **Read:** slowly and pause often.
- 2) **Meditate:** during pauses think, repeat, ponder, make it our own.
- 3) **Pray:** Respond to God’s word in our own words, in words of scripture, in words of traditional prayers; in silent prayer
- 4) **Take a word,** a phrase read and prayed over as blessing for the day.