



# Benedictine Oblates of Nebraska

Associated with Sacred Heart Monastery

June 2010

## OUR ANNUAL OBLATE GATHERING

**POTLUCK**, Sunday, June 13 at 5 pm. Bring your favorite dish, your family and your office book. Enjoy and become better acquainted with our Benedictine family this evening with Sisters Marietta and Clarise, OSB providing the entertainment. Coffee, tea, water and paper products will be provided. That is Sunday, June 13 at 5 pm in the Madonna Sheridan Rooms.

**BOOKS FOR FALL:** The second round of books ordered are here and I will have them for you at the Potluck. I can still order books if you have not done so.

**OVERDUE BOOKS:** I am sending out notes for those who have had some books signed out for a little bit of an extended time so you can bring them to the Potluck. We also have several books that are missing – I am guessing that someone may have them but did not sign them out. Here they are: Thoughts Matter by Mary Margaret Funk and With Burning Hearts by Henri Nouwen. No penalty – just nice that you are reading.

**SPIRITUAL LANGUAGE follow-up:** A special thank you to all of our Oblates who so willingly and beautifully shared some of their spiritual language.

**Ken Johnson:** “Gracious, powerful, thanks, loving! In finding the ideas and words to put into a poem, I wait for God to talk to me and help me to find the right combination of words. I feel that it is not me but God who is directing my hand. When I do something wrong it is because I am trying to rush and don’t wait for God to lead me.”

**Catherine Hornig:** (Pyramid poems)

Grace  
abounds.  
Love of Life  
is God’s great gift.  
Claiming grace  
each soul  
blooms.

God  
breathes  
in the wind  
blowing over  
the whole world  
into  
souls.

God  
gives man  
endless grace,  
redeeming us  
thru each day  
we reach  
out.

We  
need grace.  
We mess up.  
Know that God loves  
no matter  
fatal  
flaws.

**Rev. G. Duncan Miller:**

**God is the Lord Of Our Birth And Our Life**

God is the Lord of our birth and our life,  
God will be present in joy and in strife,  
Through the bright day and the darkness of night  
God through Christ Jesus will bathe us in light

When our hearts break with the pain of great loss,  
When we are burdened and carry a cross,  
When God seems distant and faith starts to fade,  
God through Christ Jesus will come to our aid.

When we rejoice for the gifts of the day,  
When we are certain God's path is our way,  
When we find love which ignites like a flame,  
God through Christ Jesus is calling our name.

God is the Lord of our birth and our life,  
God will be present in joy and in strife.  
We are God's children and born of God's grace,  
Someday our maker we'll meet face to face.

(sung to Slane – 10,10,10,10) Text by:  
Rev. G. Duncan Miller © 2010

### **LOVE POEM TO GOD:**

Rilke's Book of Hours

You come and go. The doors swing closed  
ever more gently, almost without a shudder.  
Of all who move through the quiet houses  
you are the quietest.

We become so accustomed to you,  
we no longer look up  
when your shadow falls over the book we are  
reading  
and makes it glow. For all things sing you at times  
we just hear them more clearly.

Often when I imagine you  
your wholeness cascades into many shapes.  
You run like a herd of luminous deer  
and I am dark. I am forest.

You are a wheel at which I stand,  
Whose dark spokes sometimes catch me up,  
revolve me nearer to the center.  
Then all the work I put my hand to  
widens from turn to turn.

**OBLATE NOTE** from Maureen Worden: Here is my message re my decision to move to Lacrosse to be with my daughter. My daughter has three little boys and is too busy; I have too little to do. Please know how much my oblate experience has meant to me. Thank you for all you did to help me the last year or so.

### **MOUNT MARTY COLLEGE, YANKTON, SD ANNOUNCES ALUMNI & FRIEND TOUR TO LOURDES, FATIMA, AND THE WAY OF ST.**

**JAMES:** This is a religious heritage tour, September 16-26, 2010 and can be reviewed at <http://christudor.grouptoursite.com>. It leaves from Omaha or Sioux Falls with a deadline of July 8, 2010. For more information contact Chris Tudor, Alumni Director by email [ctudor@mtmc.edu](mailto:ctudor@mtmc.edu) or phone at 605-668-1292.

### **2010 SPECIAL OLYMPICS USA NATIONAL GAMES IN LINCOLN:**

What would competition be without fans? This July they expect around 3,000 athletes and 1,000 coaches to attend the National Games here in Lincoln. They also hope for 30,000 fans to cheer on the athletes. Admission to the events is free and each day fans are encouraged to go to Pershing Auditorium for a fun-filled evening at Special Olympics Town. A number of our Oblates are volunteering (the closing date is past to volunteer) so let's be the "Fans in the Stands."

Sister Phyllis Hunhoff, OSB, Associate Director ♦  
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