



# Benedictine Oblates of Nebraska

November 2003

## OBLATION CEREMONY & 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, November 9, 2003  
2 p.m. in the Madonna Chapel.

Followed by reception in the North Commons. Family and Friends are invited to attend. (more details below)

### ASSIGNMENTS:

- **Lincoln Chapter:** No meeting of the General Assembly in November.
- **Hastings Chapter:** No meeting in November – only Cell group
- **Greenwood/Ashland:** 7-9 p.m. Ashland CCD Center, Thursday, November 20
- **Steinauer:** Banquet Room across from St. Anthony's Church. Monday, November 17, 7-9 p.m.
- **Omaha:** Tuesday, Nov. 25, 7:30 p.m., All Saints Episcopal Church

We will recognize our first Oblates of 1993. Let us make this a very special day for those making their first Oblation, those making their final Oblation and the many who will be renewing their Oblation. In the spirit of the Gospel, Oblates commit themselves to a continual conversion in Christ. Through the deepening of their baptismal promise, Oblates are free to put on Christ and to allow Christ to permeate their lives. In this way, Oblates come to recognize that in all the phases and events of their lives, in their joys and successes as in their sorrows and disappointments, they are in close union with Christ and participate in his very death and resurrection.

**First Oblation:** The following will become Oblate Novices. They will receive a Benedictine medal and sign the Certificate of Enrollment. If I have missed someone, or I have spelled a name incorrectly, do let me know.

### Greenwood/Ashland:

- + Ilene Christen

### Lincoln:

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| + Fr. George Benson | + Julie A. Moore |
| + Jolene Egelhoff   | + Giap Nguyen    |
| + George Green      | + Mike Rooney    |
| + Barb Green        | + Marcia Scott   |
| + Roberta Kaubert   |                  |

### Omaha:

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| + Fr. Emil Belsky    | + Kim Knoll         |
| + Holly Dendee       | + Anne McConney     |
| + Sooz Edwards       | + George Rood       |
| + Joan E. Fitzgerald | + Paula Rood        |
| + Mary Giddings      | + Alyssum Sherbondy |

**Final Oblation:** The following will become Oblates. The new Oblates will receive the Oblate pin, sign the Act of Final Enrollment, receive a Certificate signed by Sister Jacquelyn, Prioress and take a new name. A NEW NAME: As one is reborn into new life, the new name is symbolic of our newness of life. In selecting a name, consider someone you wish to honor, a loved one, someone deceased, a saint or a name you have liked for many years. You will place this name on the document you sign.

### Greenwood:

- + Alice Marie Rung

### Hastings:

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| + Debra Clarke,     | + Margaret Kepford |
| + Richard Gerritsen | + Carmen Mangers   |
| + Wendy Keele       | + Dixie Tripe      |

### Lincoln:

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| + Paul Barnett  | + Thomas Reppart |
| + Don Blankenau | + John Robson    |
|                 | + Kathryn Robson |
| + Dick Druke    | + Mary Schroer   |
| + Ginger Goomis | + Bonnie Tyrrell |
| + Jane Langan   | + Sarah Weaver   |
| + Diane Lerch   |                  |

### Renewal of Oblation

All signed documents are preserved in the Archives of Sacred Heart Monastery.

### Commemoration of our deceased Oblates:

- + Jerry Krumwiede – died: 5-31-02
- + Roxy Root – died 5-26-03

## VOLUNTEER OBLATES INVITED

On Oct. 30-31 from 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p.m., the Mall of Madonna (North Commons) will have many great vendors to sell their goods. The Madonna Auxiliary will give us a table to sell the monastery cookbooks. If you can volunteer for

several hours, I would be most grateful. Call 488-6731 or email [phunhoff@ix.netcom.com](mailto:phunhoff@ix.netcom.com). so we can schedule a time for you. All are welcome to shop with the vendors. Sister Phyllis

First of all, love the Lord God with your whole heart, your whole soul and all your strength, and love your neighbor as yourself (Mat. 22:37-39; Mk. 12:30-31; Lk. 10:27) (RB 4: 1-2)

## OBLATE NOTES:

- Thank you for all prayers, cards, emails and concerns for me. The wrist seems to be healing. Oct. 22, I will have the pins removed with another cast for two weeks. Then Madonna therapy. I am still in the pick and peck phase. Sister Phyllis
- Please remember the family of Oblate Don Borchers of Steinaur who lost his mother. May she rest in peace!
- From Oblate Colleen Baade in Santiago de Compostela, Spain to all the Oblates: She sent two cards, one of the monastery & one of the church of San Pelayo which have had Benedictine nuns since 1499. She says, "My research is going well. I'm hoping to visit an Augustinian convent in Toledo, soon. I am also visiting a friend in northwestern Spain - an area called Galacia. The church of the monastery of St. Pelago, founded in the 9th century as a house of Benedictine monks, then became a female house at the end the 15th century. I used to go hear Vespers here 20 years ago when I was an exchange student, before I knew anything about the Benedictines. The monastery also houses a small museum of sacred art, most of it "anonymous" which makes me wonder if the artists were nuns. Blessings!" Colleen

## LEISURE

"Leisure is a form of silence, of that silence which is the prerequisite of the apprehension of reality: only the silent hear and those who do not remain silent do not hear. Silence ... does not mean 'dumbness' or 'noiselessness'; it means more nearly that the soul's power to 'answer' to the reality of the world is left undisturbed. For leisure is a receptive attitude of mind, a contemplative attitude, and it is not only the occasion but also the capacity for steeping oneself in the whole of creation." (Josef Pieper, *Leisure: The Basis of Culture*, p. 41)

Leisure has little to do with mindless basking in hammocks, and much to do with awareness of everything and everyone

around us. Pieper also distinguishes between observing and contemplating. Observing means we are beginning to count, to measure and to weigh, while contemplating means we open our eyes receptively to whatever offers itself to our vision, allowing what is seen to enter into us without any effort or strain on our part to possess it.

In the Genesis stories of creation, God looked at the created world and found it good. Then God rested. If we take time to really look at creation, we too will find it good, and we will rest thankfully in that goodness.

Gratitude and affirmation go together. We see the ordinary transformed and celebrate the goodness of creation in worship and art. Essentially, art is a celebration of the ordinary. When we are grateful, we respect not only the creation around us, but also and especially the people who enter our lives. Without leisure, we are apt to take for granted or exploit whatever and whomever we encounter.

If you have never thought of leisure in relation to spaciousness, you may find the relationship interesting. Anne Morrow Lindbergh's "Gift from the Sea" speaks eloquently of this. Hospitality can be described as "making room and welcoming," and leisure can be described as a way of living spaciously.

We can think of time in two ways: time as measured quantitatively, or chronologically (clock time), or time as experienced qualitatively - in depth, in a given moment, what is sometimes referred to as "kairos." When Jesus speaks of "my hour" having come, or not having come, he speaks of kairos time. Leisure is related much more closely to this latter kind of time, than it is to the time measured by our clocks and calendars. (Sister Lenore Black, Tucson Oblate Newsletter Oct. '03)

---

Sister Phyllis Hunhoff, OSB, Associate Director  
Affiliated with the Benedictine Sisters of Sacred Heart  
Monastery, Yankton South Dakota  
5441 Glade Street  
Lincoln, NE 68506  
402-488-6731 (home) or 402-483-9524 (work)  
email: [Phunhoff@ix.netcom.com](mailto:Phunhoff@ix.netcom.com)  
[http://www.geocities.com/lincoln\\_oblates](http://www.geocities.com/lincoln_oblates)

---