



# Benedictine Oblates of Nebraska

Living by the Spirit of The Rule of St. Benedict + Associated with Sacred Heart Monastery  
www.nebraskabenedictineoblates.org + info@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org + April 2018

## A WORD FROM ST. BENEDICT'S RULE

Brothers who work so far away that they cannot return to the oratory at the proper time--and the abbot determines that is the case--are to perform the Work of God where they are, and kneel out of reverence for God. So too, those who have been sent on a journey are not to omit the prescribed hours but to observe them as best they can, not neglecting their measure of service.

Source: *The Rule of Benedict*, Ch 72 vv 1--4  
(Brothers Working at a Distance or Traveling)

## THE EASTER PRAISE OF CHRIST

We should understand, beloved, that the paschal mystery is at once old and new, transitory and eternal, corruptible and incorruptible, mortal and immortal. In terms of the Law it is old, in terms of the Word it is new. In its figure it is passing, in its grace it is eternal. It is corruptible in the sacrifice of the lamb, incorruptible in the eternal life of the Lord. It is mortal in his burial in the earth, immortal in his resurrection from the dead.

The Law indeed is old, but the Word is new. The type is transitory, but grace is eternal. The lamb was corruptible, but the Lord is incorruptible. He was slain as a lamb; he rose again as God. *He was led like a sheep to the slaughter*, yet he was not a sheep. He was silent as a lamb, yet he was not a lamb. The type has passed away; the reality has come. The lamb gives place to God, the sheep gives place to a man, and the man is Christ, who fills the whole of creation. The sacrifice of the lamb, the celebration of the Passover, and the prescriptions of the Law have been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Under the old Law, and still more under the new dispensation, everything pointed toward him.

Both the Law and the Word came forth from Zion and Jerusalem, but now the Law has given place to the Word, the old to the new. The commandment has become grace, the type a reality. The lamb has become a Son, the sheep a man, and man, God.



Melito of  
Sardis, Greek  
bishop (died c.  
180)

The Lord, though he was God, became man. He suffered for the sake of those who suffer, he was bound for those in bonds, condemned for the guilty, buried for those who lie in the grave; but he rose from the dead and cried aloud: *Who will contend with me? Let him confront me.* I have freed the condemned, brought the dead back to life, raised men from their graves. Who has anything to say against me? I, he said, am the Christ; I have destroyed death, triumphed over the enemy, trampled hell underfoot, bound the strong one, and taken men up to the heights of heaven: I am the Christ.

Come, then, all you nations of men, receive forgiveness for the sins that defile you. I am your forgiveness. I am the Passover that brings salvation. I am the lamb who was immolated for you. I am your ransom, your life, your resurrection, your light, I am your salvation and your king. I will bring you to the heights of heaven. With my own right hand I will raise you up, and I will show you the eternal Father.

*From an Easter homily by Melito of Sardis, bishop, from volume II of the LOH*

CHAPTERS	DEANS	LOCATIONS
Hastings	Julienne Bryan, julienne.bryan@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org	St. Cecilia's Health Ministry Building, Hastings
	Carol Barry, majorcarolb@yahoo.com	Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital
	Steve Blum, steveblum77@gmail.com	Sheridan Room
Lincoln	Carol Olson, carol.olson@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org	5401 South St.
	Jim Rea, jim.rea@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org	Lincoln
	Mary Schroer, mary.schroer@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org	
Steinauer	Marcia Borchert, marcia.borchert@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org	Banquet Room, Convent House B&B, Steinauer

### ST. SCHOLASTICA RETREAT



Join us on Sunday, April 22, 2018 at 2pm for a retreat on St Scholastica at Serenity Acres, Bennet NE. It will be led by Carol Olson and Bill and Lylaine Abbot. The retreat will include background information on St. Scholastica and asks the question: "How can Scholastica impact our spiritual life?" The retreat will focus on how artists demonstrated Scholastica's personal character through their art. We will look more closely to the relationship between she and Benedict, based on their story as authored by Gregory the Great. Please RSVP by April 20 to: Bill or Lylaine Abbott at 402-488-8688 or Carol Olson: carol.olson@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org

### MONASTERY AND CHAPTER GATHER PRAYER PETITIONS

If you would like to send your prayer requests to the monastery, please use Sacred Heart Monastery's prayer submission form.

On the Web:

[www.yanktonbenedictines.org/PrayerRequest.php](http://www.yanktonbenedictines.org/PrayerRequest.php)  
You may also send petitions to Marcia Straatmeyer at [mstraat@neb.rr.com](mailto:mstraat@neb.rr.com) or by using the Prayer Request **option** on the chapter's Web site.

### OBLATE RETREAT

**Spring Sacred Heart Monastery Oblate Retreat will be held on the April 27-29.** The topic is "Scripture and the Rule of Benedict" presented by Fr. Valerian Odermann, O.S.B. To Register: Contact S. Patricia Heirigs by visiting our website at <http://yanktonbenedictines.org/oblates> or (605) 668-6017 or (605) 668-60

See attached flyer for more information

### UPCOMING EVENTS

There are several upcoming events of interest to oblates:

Sr. Macrina Wiederkehr, OSB will be speaking at the St. Benedict Center in Schuyler Nebraska in September 2018. Sr. Wiederkehr is the author of our current cell book, *Seven Sacred Pauses*.

A regional oblate meeting is planned for August 11-12, 2018 at Immaculata Monastery in Norfolk Nebraska. More details will follow.

The Oblate Institute is in Atchison KS July 13-15 with Judith Valente.

### CHAPTER GATHERINGS

Readings are from *Seven Sacred Pauses: Living Mindfully Through the Hours of the Day* by Macrina Wiederkehr, OSB. April Reading Assignment: Chapter 6: The Twilight Hour; chants p. 190-191

### HASTINGS

The Hastings Gathering will be held on Saturday, April 14, 2018 at 9:30-11:30 am, at St. Cecilia's Health Ministry Building, 415 N. Kansas, Hastings, NE.

### LINCOLN

The Lincoln gathering will be held on Sunday, April 8, 2018, at 7:00 pm in the Sheridan Room at Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital.

### STEINAUER

The Steinauer gathering will be held on Monday, April 30, 2018. 7:00-9:00 pm in the Banquet Room, Convent House B&B, Steinauer.

### CELL GROUPS

**Text:** *New Seeds of Contemplation*, Thomas Merton, April reading: Chapters 17-18.

### HASTINGS CELL GROUP

Saint Scholastica

Cell Leader: Lee Ostdiek

**Meetings:** The cell groups meets this month on Saturday, April 28, 2018 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at

the St. Cecilia's Health Ministry Building, 415 N Kansas Ave.

***LINCOLN CELL GROUPS***

Contact a Lincoln Dean if you are interested in joining one of the cell groups in the Lincoln Chapter.

***SHORTER CHRISTIAN PRAYER INSTRUCTIONS***

We continue in the Lenten prayers until Palm Sunday March 25, 2017. Evening Prayer, Saturday, March 24, for Palm Sunday can be found on page 111, Week II of the Psalter. At the Reading, turn to page 429. On Holy Thursday, April 29, begin on page 160. At the Reading turn to page 436-456 during the Easter Triduum, Holy Thursday through Holy Saturday. On Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018, start on p. 457. On Easter Sunday we begin Week I. During the Easter Season we will turn at the Reading to pp. 469-486.

***AREA RETREAT OFFERINGS-FOR RETREAT OFFERINGS IN OUR AREA PLEASE CHECK THE MONASTERY'S WEB SITE OR CONTACT THEM FOR INFORMATION.***

***ST. BENEDICT CENTER SCHUYLER NEBRASKA***

Contact: 1123 Road I Schuyler NE 68661,  
<http://www.stbenedictcenter.com>, (402)-352-2177

***SOPHIA SPIRITUALITY CENTER ATCHISON, KS***

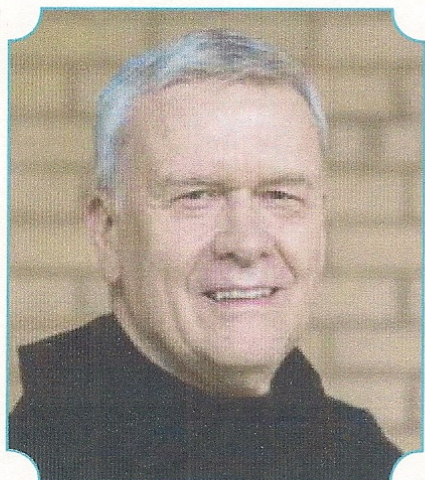
Contact: Sophia Center 751 S 8th Atchison, KS 66002, (913)360-6173,  
<http://www.sophiaspiritualitycenter.org>



# — *Spring Oblate Retreat* —

## *“Scripture and the Rule of Benedict”*

Presenter: *Fr. Valerian Odermann, O.S.B.*



Being a product of the Prairie to our “Dakota” neighbor, Fr. Valerian Odermann grew up working as a ranch hand in the badlands of western North Dakota. He became a monk and was ordained a priest of Assumption Abbey, Richardton, ND. His educational background includes studies and degrees in philosophy, mathematics, pastoral theology, religious studies, and education. In his good-humored nature he remarks “educated beyond my intelligence!” His passion for many years has been teaching, which spans a variety of ages from elementary to college level. He says I am, “Privileged to be part of profound transformations and a blessing to get paid for doing what one loves.” He served a decade and a half in Bogotá, Colombia at the Abbey’s foundation (Tibatí). Living “on the edge” where life’s concerns ran deeper than “liking” someone on Facebook. Fr. Valerian came to the southern “Dakota” and is now living in Yankton, SD. He shares, “I’m being made holy by the Sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery” where he serves as chaplain to both the Sisters and college students at Mount Marty College.

**Friday, April 27, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. —**

**Sunday, April 29, 2018 at noon**

This retreat will be offered again on (Presenter pending)

**Friday, October 26, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. —**

**Sunday, October 28, 2018 at noon**

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The retreat is available to both women and men

| **The retreat costs \$120** Scholarships are available. |

Please Register by **April 20, 2018** for the retreat opportunity listed above.

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To Register: Contact S. Patricia Heirigs by visiting our website at

<http://yanktonbenedictines.org/oblates> or

(605) 668-6017 or (605) 668-6000



**Yankton Benedictines**  
SACRED HEART MONASTERY

Yankton, South Dakota