



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 + Winter 2019

A WORD FROM ST. BENEDICT'S RULE

Anyone who knocks at the door of the community should be welcomed as Christ, for he himself will say: I was a stranger and you welcomed me (Matthew 25:35c). We ought to honor the image of God in everyone, especially those who share our faith (Galatians 6:10) and in pilgrims. Once a guest's arrival has been announced, everyone should come out to greet them warmly. First, they should pray together and be united in peace; prayer should always precede a warm embrace because love is easily twisted and misunderstood. Humility should always be demonstrated toward a guest upon their arrival and departure. With bowed heads--or even on their knees--community member should adore Christ in the guests they welcome.

Ch 53: The Rule of Saint Benedict: A Contemporary Paraphrase by Jonathan Wilson-Hargrove

WELCOME NEW NOVICE OBLATES!

The Nebraska Benedictine Oblates welcomed four novices to our group. Let's show them hospitality as they join us in exploring Benedictine spirituality!

MARK YOUR CALENDERS FOR THE ANNUAL NEBRASKA BENEDICTINE OBLATE OBLATION CEREMONY!

The annual Oblation ceremony will be held on Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 2:30 pm. Let us join those who have heard God's call to share in the Benedictine way of Life by making their Final Oblation and welcome those who are making their

Initial oblation. The Oblation ceremony will be held in the James E. Ryan Chapel at Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital in Lincoln. We will celebrate Vespers, First Oblation for new members, oblates, and Renewal of oblation for current members. A reception will follow in the North Commons. Friends and family are invited to attend. Sr. Phyllis Hunhoff, Associate Oblate Director, Sr. Patricia Heirigs, Oblate Director, and Sr. Maribeth Wentzlaff, prioress will be coming from Sacred Heart Monastery for the ceremony. Those making Initial and Final oblation will meet at 1:15 in the Chapel for orientation to the ceremony and to meet the Sisters.

SHORTER CHRISTIAN PRAYER INSTRUCTIONS

Advent marks the beginning of the Liturgical Year. Sunday, December 1, 2019 is the first Sunday of Advent. We begin with Evening Prayer 1 on Saturday night, page 37. At the Reading turn to page 356. Weekdays in Advent are on pages 358-376, and are repeated each week during Advent. One resource you might like to check for the Liturgy of the Hours for the current day can be found at universalis.com

NEW CELL GROUP!

Lincoln Dean Charlotte Liggett will be leading a cell group, starting this fall. The *Preferring Christ* cell will meet on the fourth Sunday of the month at 7:00 pm at Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital. The meeting will begin with Vespers in the Madonna Chapel with the *Beginner's Cell*, then break off for the cell meeting (room to be determined). If

CONTACT

Hastings	Juliene Bryan, juliene.bryan@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org Carol Barry, majorcarolb@yahoo.com Steve Blum, steveblum@windstream.net	St. Cecilia's Guadalupe Center 415 N Kansas Hastings
Lincoln	Jim Rea, James13048@gmail.com Charlotte Liggett, cmliggett2010@aol.com Carol Olson, carol.olson@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org	Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital, Sheridan Room, 5401 South St, Lincoln
Steinauer	Marcia Borchert, marcia.borchert@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org	Banquet Room, Convent House B&B, Steinauer

Visit our web site at Nebraskabenedictineoblates.org
 Like us on Facebook at Nebraska Oblates

interested, contact Charlotte at
cmliggett2010@aol.com

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE LEADERSHIP OF THE NEBRASKA OBLATES

The Leadership of the Benedictine Oblates of Nebraska (Sister Patricia Heirigs, Oblate Director, and Sister Phyllis Hunhoff, Associate Oblate Director, and the Deans from the Hastings, Lincoln, and Steinauer Chapters) believes that it is important for leaders to take an extended time away from their tasks and responsibilities, in order to reflect on their service, refresh themselves, and return to their duties with new energy and perspective.

This past year Carol Olson took a year away from her position as Lead Dean. Beginning in December, Carol will return to her duties as lead dean. Also beginning in December Lincoln Oblate Steve Blum will be taking a sabbatical year. A message from Steve:

My goal for my sabbatical year is to delve deeper into the writings of the Christian mystics, with the hope of deepening my faith and my experience of the presence of God in my life. Additionally, I would like to spend some time organizing a "Mystics book club" which I would like to launch to coincide with my anticipated retirement at some point during 2020.

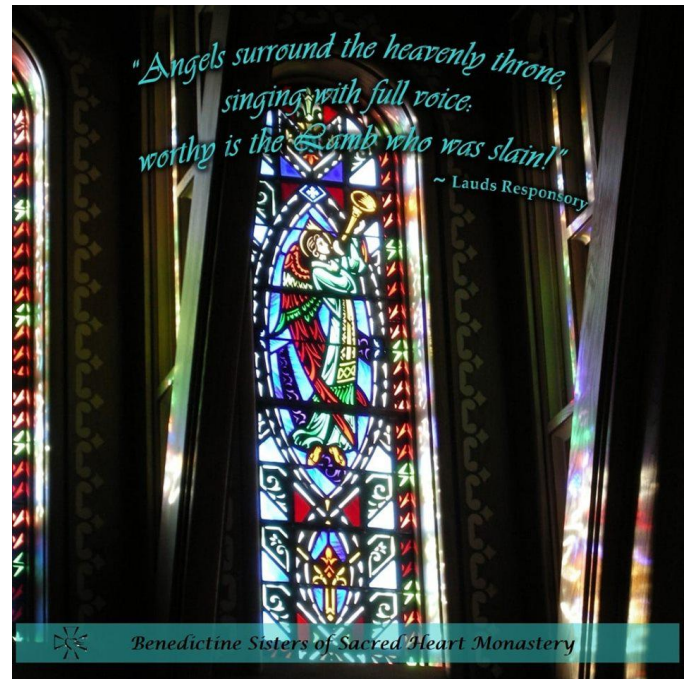
SACRED HEART MONASTERY

Come for a Personal Retreat at the Monastery: The Benedictine Peace Center is designed for silent personal retreats in monastic space, where you can be alone and/or join the Benedictine Sisters for meals and prayer. Your personal retreat may be any length, and you may request a spiritual director. First night is \$50 with added nights \$40. For further options, go to Yankton Benedictines - Retreat Center or contact Sr. Jeanne Ranek: or 605-668-6024.

Come for a Monastic over-night visit: Suggested arrival at 4 pm. Morning Prayer, Mass and breakfast with further optional opportunities. Lunch and departure. Small donation if possible. Contact Sr. Phyllis Hunhoff: phyllis.hunhoff@mtmc.edu or 605-668-6257

SNOW CANCELLATION POLICY

It seems timely to restate our snow policy.1. Should we have three to four inches of snow, we will cancel the meeting without notice. The meeting will not be rescheduled. The next month's meeting will occur as scheduled with that month's assignment.2. Should we have a snowstorm that seems hard to judge, an e-mail will be sent. For those without e-mail, please call someone with email



Have a Blessed Advent and Christmas Season!