

Oblate Newsletter

SACRED HEART MONASTERY

Yankton, South Dakota

SEPTEMBER 2022

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TO ALL OBLATES OF SACRED HEART MONASTERY:

STOP! LOOK! MERGE!

Every so often we must STOP and evaluate modes of operation. For many years we have had separate newsletters for our communities of Oblates. Now it's time to LOOK forward to a future of greater connection. The time has come to MERGE our newsletters into one so you can enjoy news from the entire Sacred Heart Monastery Oblate family.

It is important for us to learn from each other. Every day of our lives is a part of an ongoing journey; every day is a thread being woven into the Benedictine tapestry we are to become for the world. Whatever we can do to help us form into "something new" we are called to gift to the world. The world needs our Benedictine love. These are the words of Sister Priscilla Cohen, President of NAABOD, (North American Association of Benedictine Oblate Directors) at the National Convention in St. Meinrad, Indiana.

Sisters Patricia Heirigs, Rosemarie Maly, and Yankton Oblates Jan and Tom Hausmann were privileged to travel to St. Meinrad, August 4-9, 2022, to attend the NAABOD Biennial Convention. This year's theme was, "Weaving St. Benedict's Way of Life into the Future." The speakers, Father Thomas Gricoski of St. Meinrad, Sister Judith Sutera of Atchison, Kansas, and Sister Kathy Huber, speaking for Sister Anita Louise Lowe of Ferdinand, Indiana, talked about the Oblate's relationship with the contemporary world and how it fits into one's personal life. We will share more with you in our October issue.

Being an Oblate changes you; the way you exist in the world changes your life. Let us pray for each other.

God's Blessings, *Sister Patricia Heirigs*

Greetings of peace to each of you, MMU Oblates! As we begin a new school year and start up with our monthly meetings again, I just want to share with you A Bit of Benedictine Wisdom – A Little Rule for Beginners by Joan Chittister, OSB, a reflection on Chapter 53: The Reception of Guests – "Everyone with whom we come in contact must leave our presence feeling like royalty: the maintenance worker, the cab driver, the store clerk, the stranger at the door... We all have a special place in the community... We all have a place to fill. We all have a gift to give. Without us the community would not be whole, the gift would not be given in just our way, tomorrow would not be as promising."

This semester there will be 3 options for days and times to meet: 1) Thursday @ 4:00pm (instead of Tuesday) starting Sept. 22. 2) Friday @ 3:00pm starting Sept. 23. 3) Sunday @ 3:00pm starting Sept. 25.

Where: Thursday & Friday meetings will be in the Board Room SLC 110. The Sunday meeting will be in the Monastery, RM 215. And, if none of these times work for you, let me know and we'll figure something out.

May you be blessed with Benedictine peace all the days of your life!
You are in my thoughts & prayers, *S. Rosemarie*

Monastery Happenings

At a noon luncheon on June 29, 2022, we had the annual recognition for our employees for their years of service to our Monastery.

Pictured Left to Right: S. Maribeth, Rod Goeden (10 years), Kevin Sivertson (15 years), Dale Jansen (40 years), Kevin McDonald (5 years), Pam Murray (5 years), Carrie Kleinschmit (25 years), and S. Denette.



During Benedictine Awareness Week (July 5-11) we had a special gathering with our employees that included coffee and root beer floats. During that week we were able to tour our Monastic Museum which is located in the west part of our Peace Chapel. Many Sisters had not been in the museum for years. It is an interesting part of our heritage.



On July 14 we had the celebration of our Diamond Jubilarians, Sister Ann – 75 years, Sisters Arthur and Phyllis – 70 years.

Sister Terry Lafferty renewed her Religious Vows on August 5, 2022.

*Pictured L to R:
S. Sharon Ann,
S. Arthur, S. Ann,
S. Phyllis, S. Maribeth*



The Cemetery Remembrance Prayer was held on July 14 in our Chapter Room. We remember the Sisters who have died in the past year, Sisters Jacquelyn Ernster, Elise Haverkamp, Rosaleen Dickes, and Mary John Scheuren. Afterward, we walk to the cemetery and place rose petals on all the graves. Because of the extreme heat, we did not go to the cemetery this year as a group. Sisters went individually and prayed for the over 400 Sisters who are buried there.



Monastery Happenings



From June 27-July 1, Sisters Marietta Kerkvliet, Terry Lafferty, Sharon Ann Haas, and Patricia Heirigs attended the Monastic Institute at St. John's University in Collegeville, MN. The theme was "Humility," with presentations by Father Michael Casey, Father Luke Dysinger, and Sister Manuela Scheiba from Germany. The Sisters had their picture taken with Father Michael Casey.

We had our annual corn party this summer where the Sisters gather in the kitchen after supper and cut the corn off the cob, pack and freeze it for further use. As a reward, each Sister gets an ice cream bar.



Because of the large number of incoming freshman students at Mount Marty University this year, three freshman blessings were held in the Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel this summer. At the blessing faculty, staff, and students reflect on the University's four core values; Awareness of God, Community, Hospitality, and Life-long Learning. The different groups take turns in extending their blessings upon each other, students, parents, Sisters, teachers, and staff. President Marc Long presents each student with a copy of St. Benedict's Rule.

A dozen Sisters visited the Ihanktonwan Reservation in August, 2022. In Wagner, SD we first viewed a mural painted by the young people at the Boys and Girls Club. Then we traveled to Marty, SD where we had a tour of the beautiful chapel, and learned the history of Marty Mission. The day ended by visiting the deserted town of Greenwood, SD, the site of the 1858 treaty signing between the Native Americans and the US Government.



News from Nebraska

Nebraska Benedictine Oblates gathered on June 12, 2022; 2:00-4:00 pm at First Plymouth Congregational Church in Lincoln, Nebraska for Benedictine Oblate Fellowship and Oblation Ceremony. Cards were provided for Oblates to write Sr. Phyllis Hunhoff a brief note in celebration of her 90th birthday and 70th jubilee as a Sister of Sacred Heart Monastery. Approximately 21 people were in attendance.



The Oblates had the opportunity to walk three different prayer labyrinths Sunday, July 17, 2022. The three prayer labyrinths provided for this spiritual practice were Madonna Proactive, Sheridan Lutheran Church, and Trinity United Methodist Church. The pictures below show the prayer labyrinths at Trinity United Methodist (top left) and Sheridan Lutheran (bottom left).

"Today I reaped the benefits for prayerfully walking three labyrinths of life. The first labyrinth consisted of a soft small rocky winding path. My prayerful walk left my imprint on the narrow path of life along with what appeared to be other imprints.

The second labyrinth of life consisted of a somewhat narrower defined path. Easily to step off and look back to gather my forward right path motion. The third labyrinth of life consisted of a well-defined narrow path. Still stepping to the side while prayerfully walking forward on that narrow path to the goal; the center of the labyrinth. Pause, hesitate, and keep moving forward toward my goal.

Once reaching my goal, I stay there awhile to contemplate. Then, move again on that tweaked narrow winding path called life: more peaceful and clear minded with Vitamin D from the sunshine and exercise from prayerfully walking the labyrinth. Knowing how winding and off the beaten path is that word/world call Life."
A reflection offered by Marianne Guenther.

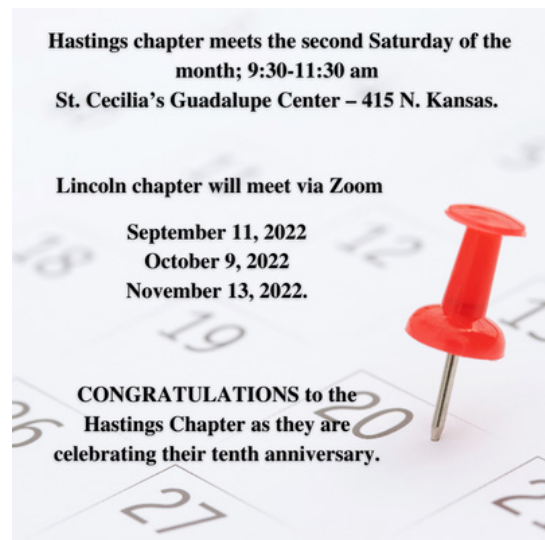
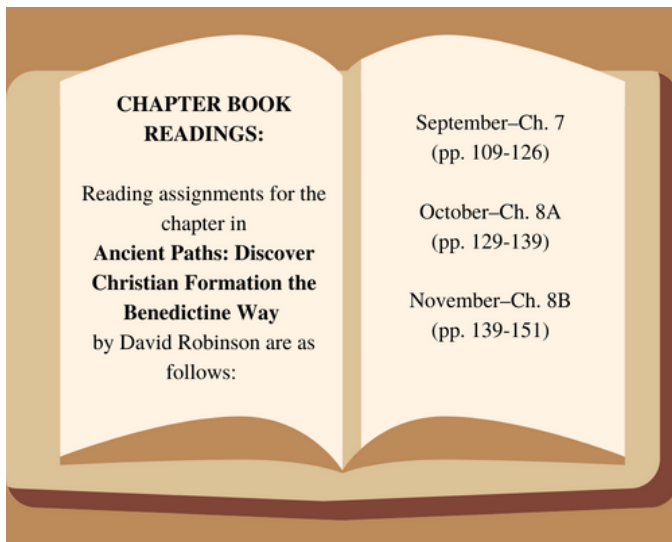
SHORTER CHRISTIAN PRAYER INSTRUCTIONS:

We are currently in Ordinary Time and will remain in Ordinary Time until the beginning of Advent. Sunday, September 4, 2022 was the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time we are in Psalm Week 3. Sunday, November 27, 2022 will be the first Sunday in Advent and that week we will be in Psalm Week 1. Liturgy of the Hours for each day of the year can be found at [Universalis.com](https://www.universalis.com). Navigate to the link for “Yearly Calendar.”

CELL BOOK READINGS:

Reading assignments for Cell groups in **Transformed by God’s Word: Discovering the Power of Lectio and Visio Divina** by Stephen Binz are as follow:

September – Preface, etc. (pp. vii-26)
October – Annunciation & Visitation (pp. 27-45)
November – The Nativity of Christ (pp. 47-55).



Prayer Requests

- For the continued healing of all the Sisters who have had surgery this summer: Sisters Barbara McTague, Marlene Stetz, Candyce Chrystal, Patricia Ann Toscano, and Marietta Kerkvliet.
- For good health for Sister Maribeth Wentzlaff.
- For all those who suffer from cancer.
- For the Oblates who are in need of healing.
- For Peace in the troubled lands of the world.
- For all of the Oblates and their families.
- For Boots Wailes and her daughter who will be walking El Camino in Spain September 6-October 23, 2022 - Pray for safety and spiritual enrichment for Boots and her daughter.

In Memory

Sharon A. Cheney, a Nebraska (Lincoln) Oblate since 1999, passed away June 24, 2022.

Judith R. Sholy, a Nebraska (Lincoln) Oblate since 2013, passed away August 1, 2022.

Tony Kolbert – Nephew of S. Marita Kolbert

Mary Albrecht - Sister of S. Patricia Heirigs

Jim Rembold - Father of employee Sarah Heine

Hilda Berreau - Sioux Falls Oblate

Carol Kurtzhals - Yankton Oblate

Upcoming Opportunities

We have planned an **Oblate Orientation Meeting** for new members of the Monastery Oblate Group on Sunday, September 11, 2022, at 1:00 pm in Room 215 at the Monastery. This meeting will be an introduction to help people discern what Benedictine Oblates are and what they do in the community. If you know someone who is interested in becoming an Oblate, please tell them about this meeting.

The **Oblate Monastery Meeting** will meet on **Sunday, September 25, 2022**, at 1:00 pm in Room 215. We will have a presentation about the North American Association of Benedictine Oblate Directors biennial conference given by Jan Hausmann who was one of the participants at the conference. Please note the change to the fourth Sunday.

Save the date for the November 11-13, 2022, **Oblate Retreat** at Sacred Heart Monastery. Sister Mary Jo Polak will be directing this retreat, with the theme of, "Praying the Liturgy of the Hours in a Workaholic World." The retreat will start at 7:00 pm on Friday and end after lunch on Sunday. For more information call Sister Patricia Heirigs at 605-668-6017 or email patricia.heirigs@yanktonbenedictines.org.

The Benedictine Peace Center is offering two online **Scripture Study** courses this fall. The morning study will follow the Gospel of Mark for six weeks on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 beginning September 21st. The evening study will follow the Acts of the Apostles on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 beginning September 21st. More information and registration can be found at <https://yanktonbenedictines.org/retreat-center/scripture-study/>.

The Sisters are serving the Banquet on Thursday, September 15, 2022. Many volunteers are needed to help. Could some of the Oblates in Yankton volunteer their time? If you can, please call Sister Joelle (668-6009). Leave a message if she isn't there, or email jbauer@yanktonbenedictines.org. Thank you!

Love Your Neighbor Tour is coming to Yankton, SD, on Saturday, September 24, 2022, from 3:00 - 4:15 pm at United Way Community Impact Center located at 920 Broadway Avenue, Suite 1. All religions share a call to love your neighbor. That's the impetus for the Love Your Neighbor Tour traveling across South Dakota in support of Medicaid expansion. On this year's November ballot, we can show care about South Dakota neighbors who need healthcare, especially thousands of low-wage workers without benefits from their jobs. Please come for this non-partisan inter-faith message at their stop in Yankton coordinated by Sisters Penny Bingham, Sharon Ann Haas, and Mary Jo Polak.

CONTACT		
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Mount Marty University	S. Rosemarie Maly Rosemarie.Maly2@mountmarty.edu	
Online	S. Bonita Gacnik, 605-668-1582 bgacnik@mountmarty.edu	
Sioux Falls	S. Barbara McTague Barbara.Mctague2@yanktonbenedictines.org	First Wed. of month 7:00-8:00 pm Platinum Valley Apartments 6315 South Connie Ave. Sioux Falls, SD
Hastings	Julienne Bryan Julienne.Bryan@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org	St. Cecilia's Guadalupe Center 415 N. Kansas Hastings, NE
Lincoln	Carol Barry – majorcarolb@yahoo.com Charlotte Liggett – cmliggett2010@aol.com Carol Olson – Carol.Olson@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org	Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital, Sheridan Room 5401 South Street Lincoln, NE
Steinauer	Marcia Borchert Marcia.borchert@nebraskabenedictineoblates.org	Banquet Room Convent House B&B Steinauer, NE