



## TUCSON OBLATE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2017

*Who will dwell in your tent, O Lord?... Pro vs23*

At our Motherhouse in Clyde, Missouri, there is a beautiful arched doorway connecting the monastic enclosure with the main chapel. Above the door, written in gilded letters are the Latin words: *Hic Amor Aeternus Habitat ...* "here dwells eternal love." It is here in this sacred space that the Sisters gather daily for prayer, adoration of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, and the celebration of daily Eucharist. Like breathing in and out, the rhythm of monastic life draws the Sisters together in chapel, and sends them out, possessing within themselves, that Eternal Love found in God's dwelling place; the Love that grants sustenance to their everyday lives of service to God and one another.

Benedictine Oblates are no less vessels of God's love. In adapting the monastic practices as fits our lives in the world, ...in the seeking of God in prayer...in prayerful reading of Scripture...in lovingly expending ourselves for others... Love that is eternal comes to dwell in our open hearts. Benedict's instruction as a loving wisdom figure tells us to *listen well to God with the ear of our hearts and to put what we hear into practice*. In our homes, with our families, in our workplaces, in our communities, living prayerfully with justice, honesty, and compassion marks us as those who dwell with God in life.

### SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER TRANSFER TO NEW MEETING PLACE

A lovely transfer ritual marked the changing site for our Oblate meetings. We began at the Monastery with a candle-lighting ritual accompanied by readings and psalms, and then processed to St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church where we were warmly welcomed by Fr. Robert Hendrickson, Rector, and Fr. Peter Helman, Associate Rector. Following the formal program, refreshments were available. A tour of the main features of the St. Philip's campus was offered, and there was also time for socializing.

Thanks to all who made this meeting possible: Salpointe High School for loaning us their vans, St. Philip's Church for providing us with meeting space and a warm welcome, the Deans who helped plan the meeting, and Sr. Sarah who came from Clyde to meet with us.

**OCTOBER OBLATE MEETING:** Our meeting on Sunday, October 15th, will mark the beginning of all forthcoming meetings to take place entirely at St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church at River & Campbell. Doors will be open at 1:30 p.m. to Murphey Gallery East (where we gathered in September). *The Oblate Way of Life* will be

presented by Sr. Kathleen Clare with refreshments to follow. Parking space is available on the premises. Meetings remain at the usual time from 2:00-3:30 p.m.

**INQUIRERS' AND CANDIDATES' CLASS:** Inquirers will meet in the parking lot adjacent to Murphey Gallery East at 1:00 p.m. and proceed together to their meeting room.

Sharon Hammond will

present the class on Benedictine Stability. At the meeting's end at 1:45 those attending will join the others at Murphey Gallery East. **Read in Advance:** RB Ch. 29 Readmission of Monks who Leave the Monastery, Ch. 58 The Procedure for Receiving Brothers, and Ch. 59 The Offering of Sons by Nobles or by the Poor. **Questions for discussion:** 1. Do you agree with Benedict that admission to the monastery should not be easy? 2. What do you think Benedict means by stability? Is this still a virtue in modern life? If so, how should an Oblate practice it?

**News:**

- We regret to announce the passing of Jane Anne O'Malley, a long-time Oblate of the Phoenix chapter. She passed into eternal life on June 23 at the age of 88. A Mass will be offered for Jane on November 5 at the Benedictine Monastery.
- **ST. PHILIP'S LIBRARY:** Oblates are warmly invited to make use of the extensive collection of volumes at the parish library.
- **A REMINDER:** Your generosity in bringing refreshments from time to time for everyone's enjoyment after the meeting is greatly appreciated.
- **REQUEST:** A considerable portion of the money donated to the "Kitty" will be used as an offering to St. Philip's for the use of their facilities.
- **EAST VALLEY OBLATES:** The meeting of October 28th will cover Part Two of the Study Guide for The Rule of St. Benedict, pages 24 through 44. For information on meetings call Nancy Kaib 480-883-8025 or Frank Young 480-219-1505.
- **PHOENIX CENTRAL OBLATES:** The Phoenix group meets at Mount Claret Retreat Center, 4633 N. 54<sup>th</sup> St. Phoenix in the St. John Paul II room in the back of the parking lot. For information call Patty Williams 602-957-1464.
- **WEST PHOENIX OBLATES:** The group meets in Glendale for a morning of prayer, community, and fellowship on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month from 9:00 a.m. -12:00. For information on meetings call Lisa at 623-374-2382.

Our prayers are with you as we continue to seek together the God who is seeking us.  
Sr. Kathleen Clare

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