



Oblates of St. Benedict Belmont Abbey

April, 2013



On April 7, Brother Edward Mancuso presented a slide show at a Fr. Solanus Casey Guild meeting on campus of his recent visit to the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit. The guild is dedicated to the beautification of Fr. Solanus. Brother Edward will be repeating his presentation for oblates at the April 21 meeting.

Meeting in April

Oblates will meet in April on the 21st.

First year novices will gather at 2:30 p.m. in the Gallagher Room at the Belmont Abbey. They will continue reading *Finding Sanctuary: Monastic Steps for Everyday Life* by Abbot Christopher Jamison. They should continue to read Step Two: Contemplation of Part Two: Monastic Steps in the Jamison book.

Second year novices will also meet in the Gallagher Room to continue with *The Life of St. Benedict* by Terrence Kardong and *A Guide to Living in the Truth: Saint Benedict's Teaching on Humility*, by Fr. Michael Casey, OCSO

At the oblate meeting, Brother Edward will be presenting a slide show from his recent visit to the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit. So after gathering in the Gallagher Room at 3:30 p.m., everyone will head upstairs to Classroom #215 in Stowe Hall at the Belmont Abbey, which has been reserved for this presentation.

Who's in the St. Patrick's Day costume?

Who is that who came to the March oblate meeting wearing a St. Patrick's Day costume? If you don't know, you are not alone. To find out, go to the bottom of the back page.



Complaining too often can distance us from Jesus

Complaining frequently can become an obsession that obscures the presence of Jesus in difficult situations, Pope Francis has said.



Celebrating morning Mass recently with staff members from the Domus Romana Sacerdotalis, a nearby residence and guest house for clergy, Pope Francis preached about the Gospel story from St. Luke about the two disappointed disciples on the road to Emmaus after the death of Jesus.

"They were afraid. All of the disciples were afraid," he said. As they walked toward Emmaus and discussed everything that had happened, they were sad and complaining. "And the more they complained, the more they were closed in on themselves: They did not have a horizon before them, only a wall," the Pope explained, according to Vatican Radio.

The disciples had had such high hopes that Jesus would be the one who would redeem Israel, but they thought their hopes were destroyed, he said on Wednesday.

“And they stewed, so to speak, their lives in the juice of their complaints and kept going on and on and on with the complaining,” the Pope said. “I think that many times when difficult things happen, including when we are visited by the cross, we run the risk of closing ourselves off in complaints.”

When all people can think of is how wrong things are going, Pope Francis said, the Lord is close, “but we don’t recognise him. He walks with us, but we don’t recognise him.”

Like the disciples joined by the risen Lord on the road to Emmaus, people can hear beautiful things, but deep down, they continue to be afraid, the Pope told the congregation.

“Complaining seems safer. It’s something certain. This is my truth: failure,” he said before adding that the Gospel story shows how very patient Jesus is with the disciples, first listening to them and then explaining things step by step, until they see him.

Complaining and griping, about others and about things in one’s own life, is harmful “because it dashes hope. Don’t get into this game of a life of complaints.”

- *CatholicHerald.co.uk*



Monastery locations from Hansgen talk

Richard Hansgen wrote to say, “Some of the oblates wanted to know the location of the monasteries I visited. Here is a list in the order that I visited them. I have listed the monastic order, the town,

and the country. Any other details should be available on line.”

1. Benedictine monastery at Sampor, Slovakia.
2. Trappist monastery at Novy Dvur, Czech Republic.
3. Norbertine monastery at Tepla, Czech Republic.
4. Benedictine monastery at Niederalteich, Germany.
5. Benedictine monastery at Palendriai, Lithuania.
6. Carmelite convent at Pastuva, Lithuania.
7. Benedictine monastery at Biskupow, Poland.

If I can provide further information, email hansgenr@bluffton.edu.

There is nothing impossible

There is nothing impossible unto those who believe; lively and unshaken faith can accomplish great miracles in the twinkling of an eye. Besides, even without our sincere and firm faith, miracles are accomplished, such as the miracles of the sacraments; for God’s Mystery is always accomplished, even though we were incredulous or unbelieving at the time of its celebration. “Shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?” (Rom. 3:3). Our wickedness shall not overpower the unspeakable goodness and mercy

of God; our dullness shall not overpower God’s wisdom, nor our infirmity God’s omnipotence.

- *St. John of Kronstadt*

Ordo

Listed are the Feast days and Memorials that are observed at the Monastery and follows the Ordo of the American Cassinese Congregation. You can also see the observed feast days by going to: <http://oblatesosbbelmont.org/ordo/>.

APRIL

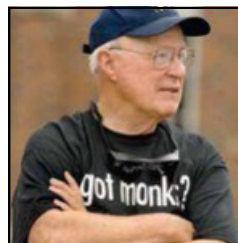
- 25 Mark, Evangelist (Feast)
- 28 5th Sunday of Easter; (Week I)
- 29 Catherine of Sienna (Memorial)

MAY

- 2 Athanasius (Memorial)
- 3 Philip & James (Feast)
- 5 6th Sunday of Easter (Week II)
- 9 Ascension of the Lord (Solemnity)
- 11 Odo, Maiolus, Odilo, Hugh and Peter the Venerable, Abbots of Cluny (Memorial)
- 12 7th Sunday of Easter (Week III)
- 13 Our Lady of Fatima (Opt. Memorial)
- 14 Matthias (Feast)
- 15 Pachomius (Memorial)
- 19 Pentecost – Solemnity

ORDINARY TIME

- 20 Begin Week I
- 24 Mary, Help of Christians (Solemnity)
- 25 Bede the Venerable (Memorial)
- 26 Trinity Sunday (Week II)
- 31 Visitation of the Bl. Virgin Mary (Feast)



Did you guess correctly about who was wearing the costume?

Father Kieran Neilson.

Meeting in May

Oblates will meet in May on the 19th. Should you have any questions, please contact:

George K. Cobb, OblSB,
Belmont Abbey Monastery
100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Road,
Belmont, NC 28012
gkcobb0428@gmail.com.