

Glastonbury Abbey: Oblate Steering Committee Minutes--August 2, 2011

Present: Fr. Nicholas, Carolyn Carpenter, Tom Gorman, Denise Patts, Sally Pineau, Kathleen Purcell, Joe Scanlan

Meeting was convened at 7:00 PM with opening prayer by Fr. Nicholas.

Oblate Steering Committee (OSC) meeting minutes of July 13, 2011 were accepted and will be forwarded to Br. Albrecht for inclusion on the website.

- 1) **Member List:** Carolyn to email Member List template to Tom. Louise Garrett has passed away and we need to reflect this on the list. The Welcome Letter, Meeting Dates for 2011-2012 and the 1st Communion Breakfast Flyer will be mailed to those for whom we currently have addresses. Carolyn will forward these items to Fr. Nicholas who will process with the Abbey Office staff.

In future, we can also do Email Bursts re: agenda, snow storm cancellations, Communion breakfast reminders, etc. as we find the need.

- 2) **September Oblate Meeting:** reviewed items from the OSC 8/2/2011 Agenda that will be the Oblate Meeting Agenda for the coming year and people's awareness of the plans and business.

In particular was the Field Trip to the Icon Museum (Clinton, MA): discussion about renting a bus or going in a few cars. Joe offered to look into this re: cost of a type of bus, and to check with the availability of a Docent to give us a talk and/or direct us through the Museum.

ACTION ITEM: We will need a Sign-Up sheet at the September Meeting to get an estimate of the interest and for deciding transportation needs.

ACTION ITEM: Carolyn will have calendars, mentor lists, welcoming letters, and breakfast flyers available.

ACTION ITEM: Flocks - Divide up Membership for Flocks for the OSC at the August 23 meeting.

- 3) **Oblate Program:** reviewed and will follow up on adjustments that need to be made:
 - Fr. Tim to speak 4/3/2012 or 5/1/2012?
 - Fr. James Savage to speak on Icons in 10/4/2011?
 - Movie Night options: Discussion continuing.
 - Witness Talks: Tom to ask and find three (3) from the following Oblates: Terri Cogliano, Kathleen Jeffries, John Geary, Richard Rivard, Deborah Roy, or John Sadler
 - Books – discussion tabled to a later meeting. However, Denise has alerted Ron in the Bookstore as to our two (2) choices and having them available.

- Day of Recollection: Kathleen invited Br. David who accepted. Day would consist of a talk on Sacred Music by Br. David in the morning and a led Music Meditation in the afternoon by Kathleen.
- 4) **Theme for Year:** decided not to have one this year.
- 5) **Mentor List:** Sally and Carolyn to check with the few we identified to see if they want to continue being listed as Mentors. We may open up to ask if others are willing to serve in this capacity in the coming year.
- 6) **OSC Member Appointments:** we will need to amend the Handbook to include six (6) members. We also need to decide if we will draw a straw for this year's committee for one person to step down with the caveat that he/she will be placed back directly on the Ballot for next year in addition to 3 other eligible names.
- 7) **Oblate Handbook:** the OSC will review sections individually and at next meeting we will decide how to change throughout the year (a section per meeting may be the most efficient way).
- 8) **New Members:** Oblates, Novices, Observers: Tom will speak with Fr. Andrew to confirm who Fr. Andrew has for each category re: the September Meeting Ceremony at Compline.
- 9) **Other:** Br. Albrecht has been invited to attend our Monthly Oblate Meetings and is making his decision. The Prayer Shawl "blew him away" as there were numerous connections to the knitter, unknown when Denise asked her to make the shawl. This made the shawl that much more special for Br. Albrecht.

The next OSC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 23, 2011 at 7:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn C. Carpenter, Obl. OSB