



PEACE



HOSPITALITY



HOW DO I BECOME AN OBLATE OF SAINT BENEDICT?

One may begin the process of becoming an Oblate by contacting the Oblate Director who will send further information about Oblates.

The process begins with a ceremony of enrollment. The candidate receives a copy of the Holy Rule and a Benedictine medal.

As a candidate, one explores with the guidance of the Oblate Director, the Rule and Benedictine spirituality and how it applies to one's life.

After approximately a year of instruction and getting acquainted with the Mother of God Monastery community, one may then make his or her Oblation, whereby one enters into a special relationship with the community. The Document of Oblation is placed in the Monastery archives; the Oblate receives a Certificate of Oblation.

There are no yearly dues nor any penalties of withdrawing should the Oblate decide to discontinue his or her association as an Oblate or decide to transfer to another monastery.



Mother of God Monastery | Oblate Director

110 28th Avenue SE #312 | Watertown, SD 57201

605.882.6631 | ramona.fallon@gmail.com

WATERTOWNBENEDICTINES.ORG

OBLATES OF ST. BENEDICT

"The Benedictine way of life has been a great blessing to me. Being an Oblate constantly calls me to a life which has Christ as its core and the Gospel as its guide."

Mother of God Monastery
Watertown, South Dakota



WHO ARE OBLATES

Oblates are adult men and women who desire to enrich their Christian way of life through a formal association with a Benedictine community as they continue to live in their own homes and communities. Oblates promise to live their chosen lifestyles guided by the Gospel as reflected in the Holy Rule of Saint Benedict.

“I look forward to the newsletter and the sharing and fun we have at our monthly meetings.”

WHAT DOES AN OBLATE DO?

Oblates promise to shape their lives by seeking God according to the Gospel as interpreted by Saint Benedict in his Rule.

Oblates do not participate in any required prayers or practices. They are not bound by vows, but by their own serious intention to offer themselves for the service of God and neighbor to the best of their ability.

Oblates strive to witness Christ’s presence in the world through such Benedictine values as: responsibility, stewardship, respect and reverence for all life, hospitality and peace.

Oblates receive encouragement, support and prayers from the Sisters of Mother of God Monastery. They are also invited to join the Sisters for prayer and to participate in special community events.

Oblates also learn about the Benedictine way of life through developing relationships with individual Sisters in the community, by attending Oblate meetings with the director at the Monastery or other Oblate sites, through a monthly newsletter and by using the Oblate Lending Library.

“I have been an Oblate for many years. I have learned the value of hospitality and the necessity of having a plan for my prayer life.”

WHY BECOME AN OBLATE?

The Rule of Saint Benedict provides a focus and guide for those with a sincere desire to find more meaning in life and to discover a deeper spirituality within their own lived experience.

Benedict breathed into every section of the Rule the spirit of Holy Scripture. He placed emphasis on a dynamic balance of prayer, work, and rest in living a Christian life.

The Rule of Benedict is not just a list of rules; it is a guide characterized by balance and moderation. It is a common sense instruction in how to live a practical, faithful Christian life.

With the encouragement of the community and the guidance of the Oblate Director, each person is urged to interpret the Rule prayerfully and actively in relation to his or her own life situation and personal spiritual journey.