

Who are Oblates?

Oblates of St. Benedict are Christian men and women from all walks of life who associate themselves with a specific Benedictine monastery to enrich their way of life.

Oblates promise to deepen their faith and to lead enriched Christian lives according to the Rule of St. Benedict; they do not take on new religious practices. The spirituality of St. Benedict is so flexible that it can be adapted to the life of anyone seriously seeking God and desiring to live the Gospel message.

Through association with the Sisters of St. Benedict, Oblates receive guidance and support in living the Christian life. This support and guidance is provided through regular Oblate meetings, by the quarterly Oblate newsletter, and other enrichment opportunities offered by the sisters.



Oblates Mission Statement

The Oblate community is a ministry of the Sisters of St. Benedict, Monastery Immaculate Conception, Ferdinand, Indiana.

Christian men and women are invited to seek God in prayer and work according to the Rule of St. Benedict.

The sisters and Oblates share the spiritual journey with one another in keeping with their chosen way of life.





For more information contact the Oblate Leadership Team at oblates@thedome.org or 812.367.1411, extension 2827. 802 E 10th St., Ferdinand, IN 47532-9239



Oblutes

"Do not aspire to be called holy before you truly are, but first be holy that you may more truly be called so."

THE RULE OF ST. BENEDICT 4:62



Why be an Oblate?

St. Benedict first had disciples some 1,500 years ago. Since then, Christians have been included in the prayer and work of Benedictine communities without leaving their homes, families, or occupations.

Oblates:

SEEK spiritual strength and inspiration from the Benedictine way of life

SHARE in the prayer and ministry of the Sisters of St. Benedict

WITNESS the Benedictine values in family, in places of work, and in civic and social activities



Benedictine Values

The Oblates share the basic values of Benedictine life:

SEEK God in community and prayer

REFLECT daily on God's Word

REVERENCE all life

PRACTICE responsible use of goods

WORK for peace in the world

PARTICIPATE in the work of the local church



Seek Information

A person interested in becoming an Oblate should contact the Oblate Leadership Team by letter, phone, e-mail or personal visit. A member of the Leadership Team will offer basic information about the life and meaning of becoming an Oblate affiliated with the Sisters of St. Benedict, Monastery Immaculate Conception.

Period of Preparation

After a period of inquiry, a person may request to become an Oblate Candidate. This year of candidacy provides the opportunity for study of the Rule of St. Benedict and to discover ways to apply its values to daily living. The preparation includes personal study with a sister or Oblate companion and attendance at regular Oblate meetings.

Act of Oblation

Having completed the time of preparation, the Candidate makes an Act of Oblation — a formal promise to dedicate oneself to serve God and all people according to the Rule of St. Benedict, as far as one's state of life permits. The document is signed by the Oblate and the prioress of the monastery and reserved in the archives of the monastery.

What do Oblates do?

UNITE daily prayer to the prayer of the sisters

JOIN in the community's celebration of the Eucharist and Liturgy of the Hours

DEVELOP a relationship with the sisters

SUPPORT the ministry of the sisters as ability or time allows

ENCOURAGE and support vocations to the Benedictine way of life

ATTEND days of prayer and other spiritual enrichment offerings

PARTICIPATE in works of charity and justice in the local area

MANIFEST the Spirit of St. Benedict in all places and all times

MEET monthly, virtually or in person, for prayer, presentations, and social time

Interested?

To learn more about becoming an Oblate, contact the Oblate Leadership Team at oblates@thedome.org or by calling us at 812.367.1411 ext. 2827. We'd love to talk!



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