

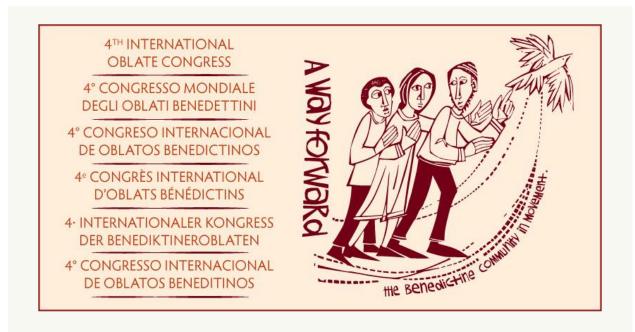
NAABOD Newsletter January, 2017



Greetings & Happy New Year!

I pray that your Christmas Season continues to bless you and your oblates and that the New Year will enrich your journey of faith.

Fourth International Congress of Benedictine Oblates. Janis Dopp (<u>ifdopp@gmail.com</u>) is serving on the International Planning Team. Since November, 2015, there have been two meetings in Rome. This is an important project, and I hope that the monasteries of North America agree and choose to send Oblates to the Congress next November. Please contact Janis is you have questions.



We are delighted to invite you to the Fourth International Congress for Benedictine

oblates and oblate directors from all over the world will gather to discuss, to share, to celebrate, to pray and work together, exploring our Congress theme:

A WAY FORWARD

The Congress is aimed at Benedictine oblates and oblate novices whose participation is endorsed by their oblate directors. A special workshop for accompanying oblate directors will be arranged.

The official Congress language is English, with plenum lectures translated into French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish.

THE BENEDICTINE COMMUNITY IN MOVEMENT

Don't wait to register: Each country or region has been assigned its own quota of voting delegates. Once this quota has been filled, additional participants are welcome as non-voting representatives.

<u>FORWARD !</u>

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> Our mailing address is: Sant'Anselmo Piazza Cavalieri di Malta 5 Roma, Roma 00153 Italy

Old News:

NAABOD 2017 will be hosted by the Benedictines of St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN, July 14-19, 2017.

NAABOD 2017 Theme is "Benedictine Values & Practices: Tools for Living, Tools for Life"

NAABOD 2017 Speakers:

- Theresa Schumacher, OSB St. Benedict Monastery, St. Joseph, MN
- Rene McGraw, OSB St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, MN
- Mary Reuter, OSB St. Benedict's Monastery, St. Joseph, MN

If you need to fly, fly into the Minneapolis, MN airport and then take the shuttle to Duluth. This is cheaper than flying directly into Duluth, MN.

Oblate Directors, Assistant, and Associate Directors are encouraged to attend along with two oblates from your Monastery

NOTE: If for some reason, your directors are not able to attend NAABOD 2017, please remember to send two oblates from your Monastery as your representatives.

We will be electing a new NAABOD leadership team at NAABOD 2017. So, please send your nominations for president and vice president to Fr. Mark Stengel (stengelmark@gmail.com). And, remember to pay your dues so that your Monastery is able to vote.

Please remember to send me the list of oblates who have died since NAABOD 2015. Or, if your list of deceased oblates was not included in NAABOD 2015, please provide me with your lists from previous years as far back as is appropriate.

Scholarships are available for directors (religious only) for NAABOD 2017. Please contact me if you need financial assistance in order to attend NAABOD 2017 or if you need financial assistance in order to pay your annual NAABOD Membership dues.

Please remember to send this newsletter to each of your assistant / associate oblate directors.

Blessings & Peace,

S. Bonita Gacnik, OSB President, North American Association of Benedictine Oblate Directors (NAABOD)