

## Oblate July 2020 Newsletter

Greetings from all safe and sound Holy Angels Community. I hope you and your loved ones are safe and keeping the restrictions as much as possible. Some of our friends and relatives are not so fortunate. For years our Sisters taught in a Catholic School in Lake Arthur, LA. One of the dedicated lay teachers, Camille Jimmy Broussard is very near death because of COVID-19.

This pandemic has really exposed us to some of the wonders of modern technology. We have not left the premises since March, except for Medical reasons. But several times we have had excellent conferences by Zoom. Our Chaplain lives here and we have been blessed with daily Mass and the Sacraments. Fr. Mike also pastors St. Anthony Parish in Weiner and was able "zoom" Mass for them a few times before the church was opened for public Mass. Also, we gather each day at 3:00 - 4:00 for a holy hour, to pray especially for all those who in any way suffer because of the pandemic.

Pope Francis' intention for July: We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect, and guidance. Of course, ever since the pandemic, Pope Francis has begged all of us to pray for the sufferers of the pandemic.

Every 3 years our Community elects the Prioress. On June 20 Sister Laura Cathcart was elected; she has chosen Sister Therese Marie as her Sub-Prioress. Our Constitutions specify that the Prioress appoints 3 Council Members; 3 are elected by the Community. One of the first things I told S. Laura was, "Sister, I know some of the Oblates will ask right away, how old is she? Is she

in good health?" S. Laura laughed and replied, "I am 48 years old, and except for a bum knee, I am in good health." But more importantly, S. Laura mentioned that she wants the Oblate Program to prosper and she will do all she can to help it do so. Some of you will remember the fine retreat S. Laura gave a few years ago. St. Frances of Rome was her topic. M. Johanna Marie is on a short, 2 week sabbatical in Our Lady of Guadalupe Monastery, New Mexico.

OBLATE JEANNIE LEE, who made her oblation Oct. 2009, died June 25. Jeannie has been in poor health these past few years and could not participate very much in the Spiritual Days, or the annual retreat. I really don't know anything about her funeral, since attendance is limited.

I asked Brother Roch, OSB, Oblate Director of Subiaco Monastery, to ask one of the priest monks to offer Masses for our living and deceased Oblates.

One last comment about the pandemic – I have been sending out a blog, via email and a few U.S. mail every-other-day, well about every third day. The blog is short, sometime a spiritual thought, or encouragement to follow the COVID\_19 restrictions, or some Bible puzzles, or some jokes, good Sister Angels cut out for me. If you do not receive the blog and would like to, let me know. And if you do receive it, but would rather not, let me know, or just delete it right away.

God bless you and the good you do.

Love and prayers,

**Sister Mary John, OSB**