



Live + Jesus

The Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

Our Mother of Consolation Parish
9 E. Chestnut Hill Ave - Philadelphia, PA 19118

January 2019

Dear Friends of the Oblates,

This year marks the Twentieth Anniversary of Oblate ministry at OMC. Throughout the years, you have embraced our Oblate Community and the Spirituality of our patron, St. Francis de Sales, which is at the heart of our lives, our mission, and our ministries.

Our parishioner, Chris Allen, who professed annual vows in 2015, has taken time off from our Oblate Formation Program as he continues to discern and reflect on how God is calling him to serve the Church. Chris continues to be actively involved in our Parish and our Oblate Community. I ask your prayers for Chris as he continues his discernment.

In August, we welcomed three young men as novices. The novitiate is an intense year of prayer, discernment, and ministry; learning the discipline of Religious Life, the practice of our Oblate Spiritual Directory, and the essentials of our Salesian Spirituality. The novitiate year lays the foundation upon which an Oblate builds his life in Christ. One of our novices, like Chris, had taken some time away from our Formation Program to discern, and has reaffirmed his desire to be an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales. The Oblates have welcomed Jon back with great joy. In addition to our novices, we have two seminarians attending school at Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

Each year, as we approach the feast of St. Francis de Sales (January 24), the Oblate Community asks for your assistance through the ***Oblate Annual Appeal***. Your support of this appeal over the years has helped to cover the cost of our seminary formation - \$40,000/per seminarian each year. It is my hope that we can do the same this year in support of our Oblates seminarians.

Your participation in the ***Oblate Annual Appeal*** is vital to the continuation of our ministry at OMC. The Oblates appreciate every gift as a sign of your commitment to us.

You may use the enclosed envelope to mail your gift to the Parish Office, or place it in the collection basket on the **weekend of January 19-20**. You may also donate to the ***Oblate Annual Appeal*** online by visiting our parish online giving portal: [Click Here](#).

On behalf of my Oblate brothers, I thank you for your generosity and for sharing in our ministry of disseminating the Salesian Spirituality for the past 20 years.

In de Sales,

Fr. Bob Bazzoli, OSFS