

**Chapter 1 : St. Francis de Sales, in Abingdon, MD - Abingdon, Maryland St. Francis de Sales, - MapQuest**

*-St. Francis de Sales St. Francis de Sales' vision of the church was inclusive and welcoming. All people, he believed, had a place in the community of believers, belonging because of their royal dignity emerging from their creation by our loving God.*

The establishment of an Oratory at Thonon , where Saint Francis served as the first Provost, was a preparatory step toward carrying out his design, the accomplishment of which was prevented by his death. Pope Pius IX temporarily approved their constitutions on 21 December The first vows were made 27 August The definitive approbation of their constitution was given on 8 December Known formally as the DeSales-Oblates, the members of this religious order are of two states, clerics and lay brothers. They engage in a wide variety of areas of service. Oblates are apostolates of education, parish work and foreign missions. They also work as teachers at religious and secular colleges and missionary areas as well as serving in military, campus, hospital, and convent chaplaincies and in inner-city social work. The postulate period lasts from six to nine months and the novitiate period from one year to eighteen months. For the first three years following first vows, the Oblates renew their vows annually, and then, they profess their perpetual vows. The order is governed by a superior general elected every six years; and five counsellors general elected by the general chapter. The congregation gradually developed in France. It numbered seven colleges and five other educational houses when the Government closed them all, 31 July The founder retired to Plancy where he died 2 February The Generalate was transferred to Rome, and the congregation divided into three provinces, by language family: Each province is administered by a provincial superior , appointed by the superior general and his council for four years. He is assisted by three counsellors elected at each provincial chapter, which meets every four years, at an interval of six years between the regular general chapters. In the early 20th century they had the following membership: The Latin province has a scholasticate at Albano Laziale. In , the church of Sts. Celsus and Julian in Rome was entrusted to the Oblates. The novitiate for the Latin and German provinces is in Giove Umbria. One Oblate was stationed in Ecuador , where before the Revolution of the congregation had charge of the diocesan seminary of Riobamba , several colleges and parishes. In , a school for the congregation was opened at Dampicourt , Belgium. At Artstetten , the Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria gave them charge of the parish, in , and assisted them to build a school. With the consent of the German Government, Cardinal Fischer entrusted the church of Marienburg in Several Fathers were engaged in mission work. In Walmer Kent, England they operated a boarding school for boys, the chaplaincy of the Visitation Convent and Academy of Roselands and a small parish in Faversham. To this province belonged the Apostolic Vicariate of Orange River. Oblates in Africa[ edit ] When the Vicar Apostolic of Cape of Good Hope, Bishop John Leonard, heard that the Society of African Missions of Lyons had decided to recall its subjects from Namaqualand and the North Western Cape, he made a trip to Europe in in hopes of finding a Congregation willing to assume the responsibility of evangelizing these districts. Namibia Missions were founded in Heirachabies in , Warmbad in , and Gabis in In , the first English speaking province was established in Wilmington, Delaware. After early years of modest expansion, the American Province flourished during the s and s with many vocations from schools it conducted in the Wilmington, Philadelphia , Toledo , Detroit , and Niagara Falls, New York areas. In , the American Province was split into the Wilmington-Philadelphia Province, which encompassed the eastern and southern states, and the Toledo-Detroit Province, which encompassed the central and western states. Child Abuse[ edit ] In , the Oblates settled a lawsuit in Delaware, acknowledging that they had allowed child molesters and predators to victimize children. The Oblates agreed to pay Robert Drelich, Richard N. In , James Roth, an Oblate priest, admitted that he perpetrated child sexual abuse in Ohio.

**Chapter 2 : Vienna's Fr. Fiorelli to lead Oblate province - The Arlington Catholic Herald**

*North American Provinces. Life as an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales. Skip to content.*

Foundation[ edit ] In nineteenth century, it was not uncommon to find child labor and unfair labor practices in industrialized France. There were many altercations between workers and government, such as the Paris Commune and the Canut Revolts. Maurice Maignen , one of the founders of the Congregation of the Brothers of St. Troyes was no exception. Many of these young workers were on their own and exposed to the dangers of the city. Father Louis Brisson was concerned about these young workers. In , he began to set up clubs, workshops and houses to help the young girls organising their new lives. As this apostolate developed, Father Brisson gave it greater stability by founding a female religious congregation, the Oblate Sisters of Saint Francis de Sales, whose purpose was to help the working girls to keep their dignity and to become women of conscience and faith. At this time, she received her new name: Even though the purpose of the new congregation was an apostolate among the working class, the two young ladies were formed in religious life according to the Spirit of Saint Francis de Sales. The congregation of sisters grew and this working class apostolate spread rapidly. The Sisters also ran Sunday clubs, boarding houses and primary schools. Their Social Apostolate was flourishing throughout France and Europe. The anti-clerical laws and complete secularization of France at the beginning of the 20th century began with the secularization of the religious houses and exiling of the occupants. Mother Aviat died on 10 January , while still exiled in Perugia. The Motherhouse returned to Troyes in the Spring of Oblate Sisters in Africa[ edit ] When the Vicar Apostolic of Cape of Good Hope, Bishop John Leonard, heard that the Society of African Missions of Lyons had decided to recall its subjects from Namaqualand and the North Western Cape, he made a trip to Europe in in hopes of finding a Congregation willing to assume the responsibility of evangelizing these districts. Republic of Namibia Missions were founded in Heirachabies in , Warmbad in , and Gabis in In May , a convent was found in Manta and in , after long hard efforts and expectations, the sisters opened a school for girls. In , the sisters extended their apostolate and opened another school in Quito. The sisters have spread their works throughout Ecuador and Colombia. In , the first English speaking province was established in Wilmington , Delaware. In , their apostolate of education expanded when they opened Mount Aviat Academy. From to , they operated St. Bernadette of Lourdes in Drexel Hill , Pennsylvania.

**Chapter 3 : Vocations - Oblate Sisters of St. Francis de Sales**

*The Oblates of St. Francis de Sales (Latin: Oblati Sancti Francisci Salesii, O.S.F.S.) are a congregation of Roman Catholic priests and brothers who follow the teachings of St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal.*

Vocations Ours is a life of vowed Poverty, Chastity and obedience lived in simplicity and humility in a Women who feel they have been called by Christ to offer their lives to him in service to the Church are encouraged to pursue and nurture this desire so that it may mature and bear the fruit that God destines it to bear. Before entering the Congregation as a postulant, a person who aspires to the consecrated life will meet with a Sister to begin a mutual time of discernment. During this time, young women are introduced to the spirituality of the Oblate Sisters through the Spiritual Directory of Saint Francis de Sales and the lived experience of the Sisters. Once a young woman makes a commitment to this faith journey, she joins our Novitiate and begins the time of formal formation, a process that lasts from eight to ten years during which the Sister is introduced to the spirituality of the Congregation, the prayer life, community living with its ups and downs, and learning to live fully apostolic life as an Oblate Sister of St. For more information, please call us at: Click on the photos of the three sisters below to open and close their stories: Sister John Elizabeth Callaghan The thought of becoming a religious started when I was young, but was something I kept very much to myself. My mother and my father each had a sister in religious life giving me the opportunity to have contact with Sisters all of my life. In addition to my aunts, I attended schools and a summer camp run by the Felicians, Franciscans, Benedictines and Oblates. More than anything these women seemed to have a happy, fulfilled life and they shared their joy generously with others. Over time, I felt an attraction to this type of life growing and deepening. During high school I volunteered as a counselor at a summer camp run by the Oblate Sisters. Through camp activities, casual discussions and working side by side with the Sisters, I gained a better understanding of this unique life style. As I moved through my high school years, I considered several careers and areas of study in college. Still, the idea of being a religious was always present at least in the background. The thought that prompted me to keep this option open was that I firmly believed God calls each person to some special vocation. Discerning what that call might be and following it was key to ultimately finding happiness and fulfillment. Eventually, the gentle whisper in my heart could not be denied and I believed that God was calling me to follow him as a consecrated religious. I loved the different communities I was in contact with, but felt in my heart that my call was to be an Oblate Sister of St. Many years have passed since those days of asking God to let me know his plans and I am still amazed that he creates each one knowing what he desires for her. Then sometimes in imperceptible ways, guides the soul to what he has planned for all eternity just waiting to see if her heart will open to his love. The first time I heard someone suggest the thought of being a Sister was in elementary school when our pastor visited the classroom and in passing asked how many were going to be priests and sisters. I raised my hand each time because it was something good but being young I really gave no further thought to it. In my senior year of high school I seriously began to think of being a Sister. During Lent the Stations of the Cross were held in the parish church after school. One Friday, I attended the Stations. While waiting for them to begin my attention was drawn to a family sitting about 2 pews ahead. They seemed to be a happy family but suddenly deep in my heart I felt that the married state of life was beautiful, but I wanted to give my love and my life to God. At that moment I knew I really wanted to be a Sister. I remember it took a lot of courage to tell my parents. One evening I kind of hung around and my father said, "Something is on your mind. My parents were faithful in practicing their religion, not only going to Church but having a crucifix in our bedrooms, saying the prayer before meals and using holy water. In grade school I was attracted to the Sisters who taught us. At the end of my high school days I went to visit one of them. I told her of my desire to be a Sister. She made arrangements for me to go to their Motherhouse in Pennsylvania along with another young girl who was also interested. On the prearranged day we boarded a bus that took us to Pennsylvania. Friends of the Sisters picked us up at the bus station and drove us to the Motherhouse. I remember being greeted by one of the Sisters and then ushered into a large parlor to wait for the Sister who would be interviewing us. I was the first one called into her office. I remember being

asked several questions and then told to go wait in the parlor. The Sister was very business like and I remember feeling uncomfortable. After the girl with me had her interview we were immediately picked up by the family who brought us here and were taken to their house for dinner and we spent the night there. In the morning we were taken to the bus station for our return home. A few weeks later a letter came and my father read it telling me that I was accepted. I got a job working in a bank for about a year and half. Meantime my mother belonged to the Oblate Mothers Guild. Days of Recollection were held for the Guild at the Oblate Sisters convent. My mother told me they could use some help serving the meal and washing dishes. I helped several different times. I told my desire to one of the Sisters. She thought it would be good to speak with my parents when they came to pick me up and also to set a date. About three months later I entered the Oblate Sister of St. Francis de Sales and each day I thank God for my vocation and my religious family. Throughout my grade school and high school years, I always felt comfortable being around Sisters and working with them. Our family moved several times and thus, I had the opportunity to be in contact with six Religious Communities: Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Joseph, Oblate Sisters of St. Their contentment and joy drew me to live this way of life, too. But, I think, it is my mother who first awakened in me the stirrings of a vocation without her realizing it. My mother, who comes from a Canadian family of thirteen children, instilled in us the traditions and beliefs of the Catholic faith, as well as sacrifice and honesty that had been inculcated in her from her parents. My father, who converted to Catholicism before he married my mother, was an example for us of hard work, devotedness to our mother and us eight children. I was his little girl. We grew up in a religious atmosphere with daily prayers and meal prayers, the family rosary, attendance at not only Sunday Mass but also frequently daily Mass, parish devotions, weekly confessions, and the Way of the Cross. All around our home we had reminders of our faith: My brothers and I even made an altar and played out the Mass. In times of crisis my mother relied on prayer to sustain her. One such occasion stands out which shows how my yearnings for the Lord started. Before my eighth grade year, our family was living in Pennsylvania. My father drove my mother and us children, six by this time, to St. My eyes were drawn to Our Lord, exposed in a beautiful monstrance, and I felt an interior longing and joy. The hymn to Our Lady of Lourdes opened my heart to her maternal care. To this day that uplifting experience is a source of strength for me in times of need. Just to set the record straight, even though I may have shown spiritual leanings, I was called a tomboy and the ringleader of any trouble into which my brothers and I got. We were enrolled in St. The pastor of the parish was Fr. Lawrence Ward, an Oblate Father. Several years later I was to learn that the Oblate Fathers had celebrated Masses in the two previous parishes in which I lived, St. So I had already been exposed to Salesian Spirituality unbeknownst to me. During my high school years, I was in the parish choir and became assistant sacristan. On one occasion an Oblate Sister visited our home. While showing Sister our outdoor shrine to our Lady, I was overcome by that feeling of contentment and joy that I mentioned above. I felt the presence of the Lord and wanted to give myself to Him forever. Finally the time came to discern in which Congregation Our Lord wanted me to serve Him. I had inklings towards a medical field. That idea was short-lived because I realized that I might never see my parents or brothers or sister again. We were a close knit family. Even though I often helped the Oblate Sisters, I was not inclined to join them because I thought they were only teachers. Another incident occurred which confirmed that the religious life was my calling. Returning home from my senior prom, an empty feeling overcame me. I knew that life had a deeper purpose and meaning than this. I was so struck by the jovial rapport of the Oblate Sister with the girls working with her. I said to myself that is what I am seeking and decided this is where the Lord is calling me. I asked for an application. But that is not the end of the story. I was to enter on the first Sunday of September in The night before entering I got cold feet. Overcome by the thought of leaving my family, I called the Sisters in Childs to tell them that I was not coming.

**Chapter 4 : Provinces, Videos and Other Links**

*Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. likes. The mission of the Congregation is to grow as a religious community in loving union with God and with each.*

Francis de Sales Latin: Oblati Sancti Francisci Salesii, O. Francis de Sales and St. The Oblate priests and brothers of St. Francis de Sales are affiliated with the Oblate Sisters of St. The establishment of an Oratory at Thonon , where Saint Francis served as the first Provost, was a preparatory step toward carrying out his design, the accomplishment of which was prevented by his death. Pope Pius IX temporarily approved their constitutions on 21 December The first vows were made 27 August The definitive approbation of their constitution was given on 8 December Known formally as the DeSales-Oblates, the members of this religious order are of two states, clerics and lay brothers. They engage in a wide variety of areas of service. Oblates are apostolates of education, parish work and foreign missions. They also work as teachers at religious and secular colleges and missionary areas as well as serving in military, campus, hospital, and convent chaplaincies and in inner-city social work. The postulate period lasts from six to nine months and the novitiate period from one year to eighteen months. For the first three years following first vows, the Oblates renew their vows annually, and then, they profess their perpetual vows. The order is governed by a superior general elected every six years; and five counsellors general elected by the general chapter. The congregation gradually developed in France. It numbered seven colleges and five other educational houses when the Government closed them all, 31 July The founder retired to Plancy where he died 2 February The Generalate was transferred to Rome, and the congregation divided into three provinces, by language family: Each province is administered by a provincial superior , appointed by the superior general and his council for four years. He is assisted by three counsellors elected at each provincial chapter, which meets every four years, at an interval of six years between the regular general chapters. In the early 20th century they had the following membership: The Latin province has a scholasticate at Albano Laziale. In , the church of Sts. Celsus and Julian in Rome was entrusted to the Oblates. The novitiate for the Latin and German provinces is in Giove Umbria. One Oblate was stationed in Ecuador , where before the Revolution of the congregation had charge of the diocesan seminary of Riobamba , several colleges and parishes. In , a school for the congregation was opened at Dampicourt , Belgium. At Artstetten , the Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria gave them charge of the parish, in , and assisted them to build a school. With the consent of the German Government, Cardinal Fischer entrusted the church of Marienburg in Several Fathers were engaged in mission work. In Walmer Kent, England they operated a boarding school for boys, the chaplaincy of the Visitation Convent and Academy of Roselands and a small parish in Faversham. To this province belonged the Apostolic Vicariate of Orange River. Oblates in Africa When the Vicar Apostolic of Cape of Good Hope, Bishop John Leonard, heard that the Society of African Missions of Lyons had decided to recall its subjects from Namaqualand and the North Western Cape, he made a trip to Europe in in hopes of finding a Congregation willing to assume the responsibility of evangelizing these districts. Namibia Missions were founded in Heirachabies in , Warmbad in , and Gabis in In , the first English speaking province was established in Wilmington, Delaware. After early years of modest expansion, the American Province flourished during the s and s with many vocations from schools it conducted in the Wilmington, Philadelphia , Toledo , Detroit , and Niagara Falls, New York areas. In , the American Province was split into the Wilmington-Philadelphia Province, which encompassed the eastern and southern states, and the Toledo-Detroit Province, which encompassed the central and western states. Child Abuse In , the Oblates settled a lawsuit in Delaware, acknowledging that they had allowed child molesters and predators to victimize children. The Oblates agreed to pay Robert Drelich, Richard N. In , James Roth, an Oblate priest, admitted that he perpetrated child sexual abuse in Ohio.

**Chapter 5 : Oblates of St. Francis de Sales**

*In a conference (The Virtues of St. Joseph) he gave to the Sisters of the Visitation, St. Francis de Sales remarked:*

*"Now, our glorious St. Joseph was endowed with four great virtues (constancy, perseverance, strength and valor) and practiced them marvelously well.*

### Chapter 6 : Oblates Of Saint Francis De Sales Flourtown Ave Glenside, PA Places Of Worship - MapQuest

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### Chapter 7 : Oblate Sisters of St. Francis de Sales - Wikipedia

*ALL VIDEOS. Life as an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales. In this video, produced during the Year of Consecrated Life, Oblates share their reflections on community life, ministry, the evangelical counsels, and the joy of living the Gospel as professed members of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales.*

### Chapter 8 : Oblates of St. Francis de Sales " Wilmington-Philadelphia Province

*St. Francis de Sales School.*

### Chapter 9 : Oblates of St. Francis de Sales - Wikipedia

*A Note from the Provincial. This week's reflection is written by V. Rev. Lewis S. Fiorelli, OSFS, Provincial. During the week of June 18, we Oblates of the Wilmington-Philadelphia Province met at De Sales University for the Convocation/Chapter.*