

Ministry to Priests through Prayer

We Oblates Sisters are called to live and to participate intimately in the Oblation of Jesus to the Father, to repair and console His Pierced Heart, with an intense life of prayer, and unconditional gift of ourselves, **so that Priests may be holy.**

The following are excerpts from our *Constitutions* on our life of prayer for priests:



LIFE OF PRAYER

The exclusive pursuit of God – which is the goal of our community life - is the foundation of that spirit of prayer that must characterize our whole existence as Christians, religious, and Oblates. From the spirit of prayer, springs prayer itself as the source and fundamental expression of our community and personal life because "the *Oblate's life is intimately tied to the altar.*" In founding the Institute, Mother Teresa wanted to root it in faith, prayer and that **unconditional gift of herself to priests**, which knew no limits in our first sisters, if not in the consummation of life itself.

In our community life, prayer is fundamental. It allows us to sense in the community the first fruits of the heavenly Liturgy and makes us live publicly the mystery of the Church. With our constant prayer, we testify that it is possible to live the Gospel in real terms. Prayer, with the silence and sense of solitude that accompanies it, offers us a means to know ourselves, to free us from egoism and live in a state of love for God and His creatures that represent the end of our religious journey.

In silent and adoring prayer we express the typical attitude of our consecration and Oblate spirituality, because with it, we join our feelings to the feelings of Jesus Himself, which are an **endless act of love and an unceasing supplication to the Father for the Church and for its priests.** Our individual prayer finds its climax in daily *adoration*. It brings us close to the altar, seen as the true source of **our specific mission in the Church: suppliant and atoning prayer for the holiness of priests.**

See the next page for a description of the League of Priests.

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Ministry to Priests through the League of Priests

The League of Priests, requested by the Sacred Heart of Jesus, is a group of Priests formed in the diocese under the jurisdiction of the Bishop, or his delegate, and bound together by the bond of expiatory charity for their brother Priests of the diocese, who do not appreciate nor fulfill their vocation and jettison the sanctity of their sacred character. The members of this group gather together for prayer and fellowship four times a year. They offer themselves, pledging to make reparation by living a holy and exemplary life before God and before the people for the harm done to many souls. Because of this league the diocesan priest does not feel alone. And in his apostolic work, with its bitter disappointments, he knows that he will find powerful assistance in the prayers and in the common bond and purpose uniting him with other priests in Christ. From the writings of Mother Teresa Casini, Foundress.



League of Priests at Prayer
In the Oblate Sisters Chapel.



League of Priests
At Dinner in the Oblate
Sisters Dining Room

"I will make the priestly spirit blossom in those dioceses where there is a small nucleus of priests to console my heart, to satisfy the justice of my divine Father, and to make amends for the harm done to souls by their unfaithful shepherds. According to their fervor I will unite them to my heart, filling them with charity and apostolic zeal; I will bless their undertakings and give them the grace to penetrate souls with the unction of their words and lead their brothers back to my heart. I will be their support in life, in temptation, and in spiritual conflict, and I will be near at the time of death; I will comfort them and unite them to my infinite love." From the writings of Mother Teresa

Casini, Foundress

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