

CHRISTUS REGNAT



INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

Two deacons and nine subdeacons were ordained by His Excellency, the Most Reverend Atbanasius Schneider, Auxiliary Bishop in Astana, Kazakhstan.



A dozen seminarians received the cassock, including five Americans.



Over 50 seminarians received the tonsure & Minor Orders.



BLESSED WITH MANY VOCATIONS!



Dear friends of the Institute of Christ the King,

O Lord, send us many priests and religious vocations! It is customary in Institute apostolates to add this invocation to the Divine Praises at Benediction. Thanks be to God that this prayer is being granted in our day! During the first week of July, 11 seminarians received the cassock, including 5 Americans, (photo right) and over 50 received sacred tonsure and Minor Orders. In addition, a total of 11 were ordained to the diaconate and subdiaconate, and 4 men received priestly ordination at the hands of His Eminence, Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke. Thank you so very much for all of your support, which are bringing so many men to the altar of God. Your prayers for vocations are being answered!



At the same time that so many priestly vocations abound in our Institute, we must not overlook the fact that God is also blessing our community with an increasing number of vocations to the oblatehood. Clerical members of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest who do not seek priestly ordination, oblates are brothers to the Canons in the family of the Institute.

Oblate Abbe Ben McEvilly receives the sacred tonsure, July 2011



Tel 773-363-7409
Fax 773-363-7824
info@institute-christ-king.org
www.institute-christ-king.org

Provincial Superior for the U.S.
Vicar General
Msgr. R. Michael Schmitz

The Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest is a society of apostolic life of Pontifical Right whose goal is the honor of God and the sanctification of priests in the service of the Church and souls.

INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST
U.S. Provincial Headquarters
6415 S. Woodlawn Ave
Chicago, IL 60637-3817



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VISITS OF PRIOR GENERAL

This spring and summer our American province was honored by two visits from our Prior General. Monsignor Wach preached the annual retreat for the Canons at St. Francis de Sales Oratory in St. Louis (right).

In June Monsignor again traveled to the Shrine of Christ the King in Chicago for the National Retreat of the Society of the Sacred Heart, lay branch of the Institute, and conferred the Cross of St. Francis de Sales upon new members (left). The Society is open to faithful who desire to make a personal commitment to living a Rule of Life inspired by the spirituality of the patron saints of the Institute.



SURSUM CORDA YOUNG ADULT WEEKEND

Young men and women came from all parts of the U.S. to take part in what promises to be the first of many events sponsored by the Institute for the spiritual and cultural enrichment of young adults, an initiative dubbed *Sursum Corda*. The inaugural event was a July 8-11 retreat on the beautiful grounds of St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The long weekend featured daily Mass and spiritual talks, sports, visits to churches and a museum, live music and square dancing, and a very impressive talent show. Canons Meney, Hellmann and Huberfeld were all on hand for the event, along with several lay organizers.

CONFIRMATIONS IN MILWAUKEE & WAUSAU

His Excellency, Most Reverend Jerome E. ListECKI, Archbishop of Milwaukee, conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Extraordinary Form at St. Stanislaus Oratory (right).

His Excellency, the Most Reverend William P. Callahan, Bishop of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, conferred Sacrament of Confirmation in the Extraordinary Form to faithful from Saint Mary's Oratory and from the Institute's apostolate at Saint Mary's, Cashton (left)



MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY HILL BASILICA

Over five hundred faithful came on pilgrimage to the National shrine of Mary Help of Christians, where Canon Brian Bovee, current Rector of St. Mary's Oratory in Rockford, celebrated a Solemn High Mass in honor of his 30th anniversary of priestly ordination.





They live a life of *Ora et Labora* according to the spiritual ideal of Saint Benedict, our holy patron. An oblate's daily life is centered on the Liturgy by serving Holy Mass and Eucharistic Adoration and by participating alongside the Canons in the communal recitation and chanting of certain canonical Hours of the Divine Office. Thus, they work to obtain a thorough knowledge of the liturgical ceremonies of the Roman rite and to care for the various sacred items which are used at the altar, as well as in the sanctuary and sacristy. Those oblates with musical talent study to progress as organists and cantors of Gregorian Chant, while those with artistic abilities develop these skills to beautify the house of God. Oblates can also assist the Canons in administering to the needs of the faithful by teaching catechism and organizing youth activities and camps. As members of religious family, the oblates accomplish a wide range of other tasks as well such as office and administration work, public relations, as well as house and car maintenance. As brothers to the priests and to one another, oblates share in the joyful spirit which is a fruit of charity lived in community.



Important in the life of our Institute as well as for the faithful in the apostolate, oblates are loved and appreciated for the witness of their presence in the community and service to the universal Church. One of our oblates, Abbe Alexander Willweber, was awarded in 2008 the papal medal *Bene Merenti* from the Holy See for his artistic work. (left)

During at least one year of introductory formation the candidates to the oblatehood devote themselves to some basic study in

Liturgy, Gregorian Chant, Salesian spirituality, Latin and French, as well as to service in various areas according to their gifts and talents. After this period of preliminary formation they may then receive the cassock. Oblates will then continue in training and study for 5 years, during which time, at the discretion of their superiors, they may receive certain of the Minor Orders of the clerical state. After this five-year period is completed, the oblates will make a solemn promise of lasting obedience, thus becoming full members of the Institute of Christ the King.

Already this year several men have completed their introductory period of formation and have received the cassock as oblates of the Institute. Others are entering our community and beginning their formation as candidates. **Help these members of our Institute family; support the oblates who so generously give their lives for the Church.** You can be assured of their grateful prayers at daily Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. **Oblates can only continue their important mission in our Institute if you support them now!**

Yours very truly in Christ the King,

Michael Schmitz

Msgr. R. Michael Schmitz
Vicar General in the Institute of Christ the King
Provincial Superior for the United States



Abbe Alex Barga reads Bible stories to children.

MEET OBLATE BROTHER ABBE ALEX BARGA New Weston, Ohio



Growing up in west-central Ohio, I always loved the Church and Sunday Mass. But it was not until joining the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest three years ago that my life immediately started revolving around the

Church and the Liturgy. After spending the majority of a year as a candidate at St. Mary's Oratory in Wausau, Wisconsin, I received the cassock as an oblate and have since been serving at St. Francis de Sales Oratory in St. Louis.

My main duty as an oblate at St. Francis de Sales Oratory is being the sacristan. This involves setting up for Mass and all liturgical functions and keeping the sacristy and church clean and orderly. I also help the Altar boys learn how to serve Mass and I teach catechism classes to first, second and third graders.

Every day I thank God for helping me find the Institute. Whether it's the chanting of Lauds and Vespers daily, holding server practices, or polishing thuribles everything is done is for the greater glory of God.

Abbè Alex Barga
St. Francis de Sales Oratory,
St. Louis



Abbe Alex Barga receives the Minor Order of Porter.

LIFE OF A CLERICAL OBLATE

Liturgy, Service, Brotherhood



Abbe Alexander Willweber works on a building project.



Abbe Alex Barga in study.



Abbe Sebastien Sicard in community prayer.



Abbe Gabriel Zehetbauer, organist.



Abbe Alex Barga with catechism students.



Abbe Gabriel Zehetbauer works in the office.



Abbe Georg Emmel lights candles before the Holy Infant King.



Oblates team up for yard work.



Abbe George Baird in lectio divina.



Abbe Francis Bennell cooks dinner.



Abbe Joseph Jessel & Abbe Kevin Kerscher enjoy a musical moment.



Abbe Florian Vallat prepares flowers for the sanctuary.



Abbe Ben McEvelly in kitchen.

MEET OBLATE SUBDEACON ABBE GEORG EMMEL Frankfurt, Germany



After my conversion to the Catholic Church in late 1995, I felt the vocation to become a brother. It was my desire, to serve the Church, her priests, and faithful in a traditional order with my God given talents.

After some contact with various orders, I got in touch with the Institute and immediately felt drawn by its spirituality and its family character. Finally I entered in October 1998 and started my candidacy period in our German house in Bayerisch Gmain, Bavaria. I spent six years there before I was assigned to our apostolate in Chicago, where I am currently the head sacristan. I also help out in the administration of our American headquarters. Other important tasks of mine include the regular cleaning of our priory and church, serving at table, preparing guest rooms, and looking after our dear guests in order to make their stay comfortable.

On July 1st, 2009, I was ordained a Subdeacon (photo below) by His Excellency, the Most Reverend Basil Meeking, Bishop Emeritus of Christchurch, New Zealand, in our Seminary in Gricigliano. I am very grateful to God and to my Superiors for having the opportunity to serve Christ and His Church as an oblate.

Abbè Georg Emmel Shrine of Christ the King, Chicago

