

envision

OBLATE YOUTH AUSTRALIA UPDATE

The Media seems to be offering a mixed bag with regards to the success of young women and the sport of sailing. On the one hand it was fantastic to see the achievements of a young woman like Jessica Watson who successfully sailed around the world. It was truly a delight to see her achievement and her humility in some ways included you in her success. More recently we have been reading about the cost, the danger and the wasted resources involved in Abby Sutherland's failed attempt to circumnavigate the world. In my own mind one minute it is an act of courage and next minute an act of foolishness. There is a danger if we go down the "foolishness" and "wasted resources" argument, where will it end?. Should a person be refused medical treatment at a car accident scene because they were driving too fast or denied cancer treatment because they smoked for a few years. What I think is important is that life isn't simply black and white, we are challenged to live somewhere in the grey. The mess of life is a litany of successes and failure

- the true judge of character is found in the way we live or navigate through both the good times and the bad.

Another important thing to reflect on is that both these young women needed the support of many people to do what they did. It is a great reminder that very little in life is achieved as an individual. One person's achievement indicates an involvement of many.

As a community our achievements have always been thanks to the involvement and support of many people, our parents, our faith communities, the Oblates and one another.

Have you taken the time to thank your parents recently for all that they have given you? (For the oldies reading this you can always offer a prayer of thanks giving if they have gone to God) In what way do I contribute to the parish community that supports me and OYA?

As always the challenge for Oblate

Youth Australia is to dream as a community and bring those dreams into a reality through the community.

Three dreams we have as a community are the Re-Encounter Weekend (17 July 2010), National Oblate Youth Encounter (9-13 Jan 2011) and the National Oblate World Youth Day Pilgrimage (5-27 August 2011). Each of these events need your participation even if you can't attend each one personally.

As we seek to continue our journey of circumnavigating the world, let us pray that Holy Spirit fills our sails and guides us in the challenge of navigating the grey reality of life.

God bless
Fini

Dates to remember and pray for

25th June

First Vows for Oblate Novices

16th - 18th July

"Re-Encounter" OYA Weekend

9th - 13th January 2011

National Oblate Youth Encounter



Re-Encounter 2010

From Friday the 16th to Sunday the 18th of July, OYA is hosting a community weekend for the Oblate family. The purpose of this event is to raise funds for the Partners in Mission program in China and Rosies in Victoria. At the centre of this event is the formal dinner and mass on Saturday evening. Participants of this event are invited to visit our website, www.oblateyouth.com for more information on the happenings and cost of the weekend. Furthermore, we ask that you fill out the form provided on the website by Thursday the 1st of July 2010, and either email or mail it to the address provided.

OYA
Weekend
16
17
18
July

Faces of Oblate Youth

Veronica Holt



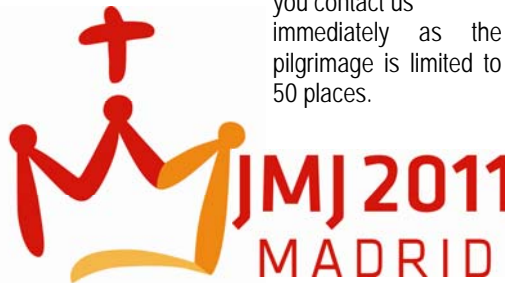
When my family moved to Australia in 2003 from South Africa, I was quick to join the Oblate youth group at St Mary's Parish, Eaglevale, in Sydney. This youth group was a supportive one and I found a second-family in the friendships I made and the people who encouraged me in all my endeavours. The youth group, formed by Fr. Christian, was indeed directed by a spirituality and faith I had not yet encountered in other youth groups. The years I spent as part of this family will always be cherished and there are many memories which I hold dear. I became part of the Oblate Youth Australia family in 2009 when I attended my first Encounter. Since then, I have been involved in many Oblate events and activities, the most significant being Rosies. Through these experiences I have made lasting friendships. I am now 20 and have been a part of this family for 8 years. I have grown up under the guide of a supportive and kind network of people OYA offers. I am currently studying a Bachelor of Journalism by correspondence and I have approximately six months to go until I am finished. I am also an English tutor at Assumption College Kilmore. After I finish my studies, I would like to do some missionary work overseas, either in China with the Oblates or in Papua New Guinea with the Marists.

WYD 2011

"World Youth Days manifest the dynamism of the Church and her eternal youth." – Pope Benedict
World Youth Day (WYD) is a celebration designed by Pope John Paul II to rekindle and inspire the faith of youth across the globe. The first WYD began in Rome in 1984 and has since travelled around the world to Argentina, Spain, Poland, the United States, the Philippines, France, Canada, Germany and, most recently, Australia. WYD is a six day event which sees Catholic youth come together in celebration of their faith. It is a time for young people to share in their faith charism and be rejuvenated by seeing, first-hand, the extent and universality of the Catholic tradition. Many people have been positively affected by this event. Next year, WYD will be held in Madrid, Spain.

The Oblate family intends to travel overseas with a group of young people on a spiritual pilgrimage, ending with the WYD festivities. This pilgrimage is open to any young person, between the ages of 16-35 who identifies with the Oblate charism. The pilgrimage will leave Australia on Wednesday 3rd of August 2011. The itinerary follows the pilgrimage of St Eugene de Mazenod, founder of the Oblate order, from Marseille to Aix-en-Provence, Paris and Rome, followed by the International Oblate Youth gathering in Pozuelo, Spain, and then on to the WYD event in Spain and a post-WYD retreat in Rome. The pilgrimage will return on Sunday 28th of August 2011.

Details of this pilgrimage, including costs, can be viewed on the Oblate website. Should you be interested in attending this event, it is advised that you register your interest by emailing your contact details to wyd@oblates.com.au. Places will be filled on a 'first come, first serve' basis, so it is imperative that you contact us immediately as the pilgrimage is limited to 50 places.



Faces of Oblate Youth

Mary-Anne Keady



I am Mary-Anne Keady, currently a Year 12 student, soon to be 18 years old, a worker at McDonalds, a netball player, but most significantly a member of St John Vianney's Parish Mulgrave, in Victoria! About 10 years ago, this little parish with the guidance of Father Fini began the first Oblate Youth Group of Australia. Of these few original members was my older brother Damien. Thus began my own excitement to join. However, being quite young I still had a few years to wait. My own OY story began about four years ago when a junior youth group for our parish was formed, also known as 'Living In Faith Together' (LIFT). Since this moment, I have always been part of this youth group. I was joined by my two close friends Vanessa Ashokkumar and Antoinette Padilla. Together on this spiritual journey we attended World Youth Day in Sydney in 2008. Personally, WYD is one of the greatest experiences of my life, as was the Pentecost Dinner of May last year and the National Oblate Youth Encounter which occurred in January this year over in Adelaide! When I finish my high school education I intend either to travel or to begin studies at university. Regardless my immediate plans are to join Rosies as soon as I am able and remain enjoying every second Tuesday night meeting with my friends at junior youth. After the enlightening experience of WYD, I cannot wait to attend another, although Madrid 2011 may be a little beyond my financial capabilities. However my prayers and thoughts are with those lucky enough to attend next year. My own Oblate journey has been greatly influenced by my family's connections with the Oblates, my father Michael Keady, a teacher at Mazenod College, and the many priests who I am blessed to know - there are too many to name, but especially my cousins Father Tony and John Maher, as well as my brother's own involvement within Oblate Youth Australia which has shaped my own passion for Oblate Youth Australia. I cannot wait to grow within this powerful community which the Oblates have founded.

Come, follow me
Come and see!
Is it I Lord?
"May it be as you've said"
tend my sheep

Our warm invitation to you... come and see!

Vocations Discernment Weekend
with the
Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

If you have ever considered a life as an Oblate or are just unsure about what being an Oblate means then this year's Vocations Weekend is an opportunity for you. On the weekend you will discover what it means to be an Oblate and also delve deeper into discovering if God is calling you to a vocation with the Oblates. The weekend is being held on Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th July at St Mary's Seminary on Jacksons road, Mulgrave.

If you are interested you should contact Fr John Sherman on 0418 825 701 or email him at jsherman@oblates.com.au to ask some more questions and decide if the weekend is right for you.

Oblate Youth Australia

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