

Monthly Media Monitor



A Media Apostolate Newsletter of the Congregation of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary

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OMVs Proclaim the Truth Using Audio, Video, and Print



Left: Students work diligently in the studios at the Gregorian University to complete their projects before the deadline. Right: Group selfie in the classroom.

We begin this Lenten edition of the Monthly Media Monitor with some photos of my hard-working students at the Pontifical Gregorian University here in Rome. As Oblates of the Virgin Mary, we not only use the mass media but also teach them to others.

Students working toward their Licentiate in Social Sciences with an emphasis on Communications, these men and women (most are priests/religious) recently took an Audio Production Intensive course taught by yours truly (Fr. John Wykes, OMV). Designed to be an entire semester of work squished into one week, the course was held from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for five days (with overtime often part of some of these days). Thanks to their hard work as well as the very generous help of my teacher's assistant, Leonard, the students created radio interviews, radio dramas, news broadcasts, and even sound effects for film. They all did very well.

Hailing from such diverse countries as Congo, Cameroon, Rwanda, and the Central African Republic, these students will continue their studies with me as they pursue the remainder of our Multimedia Production class.

In other media-related OMV news...Fr. Andrea Brustolon, OMV has written an essay as part of a new book. The book is called *Villastellone: A History and Remembrance of the Community*. Andrea's essay

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The Monthly Media Monitor is published in English by the Oblates of the Virgin Mary on the first day of every month, except for June, July, and August (summer break in the northern hemisphere). This publication is not a monthly summary of OMV life in general. Instead, it is an instrument to disseminate news concerning the work of Oblates of the Virgin Mary in the apostolate of social communications. Part of the OMV apostolic work is to propagate the truth through the mass media. This newsletter celebrates the works of this important media apostolate.

— Fr. John Wykes, OMV, Director of Communications, OMV General House, Rome



Did You Know...?

...that Vatican News is a great place to get news about the Church, both news from Rome and from other parts of the world?

Vatican News is the official news portal of the Holy See. Bearing in mind the efforts of Pope Francis to consolidate the Holy See's various media efforts in this age of media convergence, Vatican News works in tandem with L'Osservatore Romano, Vatican Radio, and Vatican Media to provide up-to-date and comprehensive coverage of the activities of Pope Francis and the works of the universal Church.

Vatican News is a "hub" where people can easily access text-based news, the latest audio from Vatican Radio, and the latest video from Vatican TV. The organization boasts (and rightly so) a plain that is "multi-lingual, multi-cultural, multi-channel, multi-media, and multi-device". The guiding criteria for Vatican News, in the words of Pope Francis, is "apostolic and missionary, with special attention to situations of hardship, poverty, and difficulty."

Visit Vatican News on-line at "vaticannews.va".

Ordinations and So Much More ... (continued)

is entitled, "The Preaching of the Oblates in Villastellone". This book is published in Italian and features a number of essays from a variety of authors.

Also from Fr. Andrea is a new book – this one he authored himself completely. Called *The Maternal Heart of Mary According to the Mariology of Venerable Pio Bruno Lanteri*, this Italian publication explores our human hearts and how we are called to expand them to be more like the heart of Mary.

Here in Rome, in addition to overseeing the OMV Internazionale YouTube Channel, I (Fr. John Wykes, OMV) also have a personal YouTube Channel called FilmFan 232. Check out the latest video series entitled *A Tour of St. Peter's Basilica*.

News from the U.S. Province — in addition to his own books and TV series, Fr. Tim Gallagher, OMV has made appearances on other programs as well. *The Chris Stefanik Show*, a production of the Augustine Institute, available on the on-line platform known as "Formed", featured Fr. Tim on an episode that discussed discernment. The episode is available on-line as "What does God want?! Rules for discernment | Chris Stefanik Show."

A nice summary video has been produced in the U.S. of Deacon Jay-Ar San Juan's Final Vows ceremony. It includes beautiful slow-motion videography as well as clips from the homily by Fr. Jim Walther, OMV. Find it on YouTube as "The Final Vows of Br. Jay-Ar San Juan, OMV".

Also on the omvusa YouTube Channel – Fr. Peter Grover, OMV continues his weekly Bible study. Each video is about five to seven minutes long and presents reflections on the Scripture passage for the approaching Sunday.



Fr. Tim makes an appearance on the Chris Stefanik Show.

Another omvusa video is called "Seminar Formation Program: Oblates of the Virgin Mary". Featuring long-time novice master Fr. Shawn Monahan, OMV, the video describes the OMV formation program and is a sort of "warm up" for the seminary-fundraising Gala in April.

Well, that's all the news for this month. We wish you all of God's blessings for a continued grace-filled and spiritually-fruitful Lenten Season. See you again in April!