

Celebrating Our 10th ANNIVERSARY 2010 - 2020

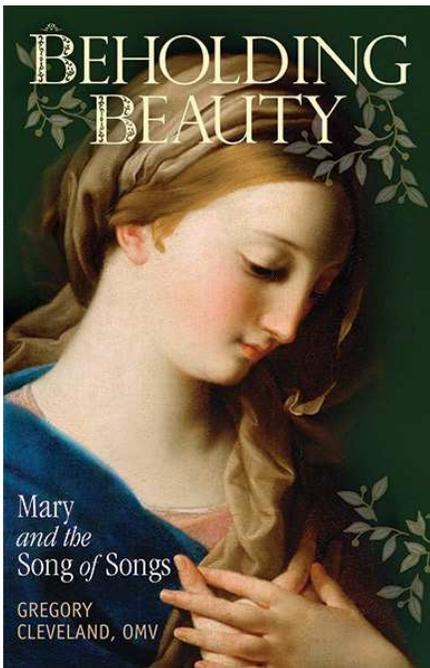
Monthly Media Monitor



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

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New Books, New Videos, and More



As we begin the last month of 2020, we continue to rejoice in the great media work being done by Oblates of the Virgin Mary around the world.

Fr. Greg Cleveland, OMV has a new book being published (image at left). It is called *Beholding Beauty — Mary and the Song of Songs*.

“I’ve been a priest for 25 years with the Oblates of the Virgin Mary,” said Fr. Greg in a promotional description of his new work. “I’m the author of *Awakening Love — An Ignatian Retreat with the Song of Songs* which has helped countless souls grow closer to Jesus in prayer.

“Now I want to help you grow closer to Jesus’ Mother, too!...What’s unique about *Beholding Beauty* is that I show you Mary from a new perspective — as the fulfillment of the Bride in the Song of Songs, that marvelous book of love poetry from the Hebrew scriptures.”

We congratulate Fr. Greg on this fine work and pray that the book sells well, especially during this Advent Season.

Fr. Tim Gallagher, OMV, also has a new book coming out. *A Biblical Way of Praying the Mass — The Eucharistic Wisdom of Venerable Bruno Lanteri* is presented by EWTN Publishing and is due out soon.

As the Oblates of the Virgin Mary and their Founder become better known, other authors are mentioning both more frequently. Renowned Ignatian scholar Fr. Joseph Tetlow, SJ, mentions in his new book that “for about a hundred years, starting in the 1880s, Jesuits, Oblates (OMV), and Cenacle Sisters were the only Ignatian spiritual directors.” An explanatory note by Tetlow adds that “since well before the 1980s, the Oblates of the Virgin Mary (OMV), have also given Ignatian retreat and spiritual direction. The congregation was important to the Church and especially to the Jesuits in the early 1800s, when the Society was restored after forty years of suppression. The Oblates had kept alive the tradition of one-to-one direction and helped the restored Jesuits pick it up again.”

Staying with news from the US — the omvusa YouTube Channel has new videos all the time. Most of these are previously-streamed Masses, but the channel has other videos, too. These include some new “Vocation Story” videos in which our men spend just a few minutes talking about how they found their vocation to become Oblates of the Virgin Mary.

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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

New Books, New Videos ... (continued)

For example, “Vocation Story: Fr. Vincenzo Antolini, OMV” is a very moving and dramatic video in which Fr. Antolini recounts the bombing of Rome during World War II and the near-death experiences he endured which spurred him on to think of a vocation. Other “Vocation Story” videos include accounts from younger Oblates such as Fr. Paul Nguyen, OMV, theology student Br. Jorge Sanchez, OMV, and postulant Chris Puglia.

Fr. Peter Grover, OMV, a Scripture scholar in the US, has his own YouTube Channel called, you guessed it, “Peter Grover.” The channel features many videos on Sacred Scripture. He has also begun a new series called “...in the Bible,” in which the ellipses in the title is filled in with various aspects of Biblical wisdom. For example, episodes include “Human Purpose in the Bible,” “Bad Habits in the Bible,” and “Jealousy in the Bible”.

Speaking of videos — Jandro Cisneros’s new video “Esperanza” has two major OMV connections. One is Jandro himself, as he is the one who composed all the music for the film *Nunc Coepi — The Life of Venerable Bruno Lanteri* (with Jandro’s lovely wife Cristina singing parts of the final “Nunc Coepi” song). The other OMV connection is Fr. Peter Grover who actually appears in the new video. “Esperanza” focuses on Jandro and Cristina’s new daughter by that name and Fr. Peter is seen briefly during this music video celebrating the baptism of Esperanza. The video can be seen on YouTube: “ESPERANZA” [Official Music Video] — Jandro Cisneros”.

Fr. Oseni (Jude) Ogonu, OMV, has started a new YouTube Channel. Called “The Catholic Voyage – Africa,” the new channel is meant to be a sort of video extension of the Catholic Voyage, a printed journal of the Conference of Major Superiors in Nigeria. This author (Fr. John Wykes, OMV) was happy to play a small part in helping this channel come to fruition. In addition to its highlight video which shows many images of consecrated life in Nigeria, the channel also has a welcome video by Francis Cardinal Arinze as well as a reflection video on the authenticity of charism with commentary by Sr. Josephine Nwaogwugwu, HFSN. We pray that “The Catholic Voyage – Africa” continues to be a great success.

Sometimes Oblates of the Virgin Mary use a bulk e-mail service to spread the truth of God’s love and mercy. Online, “Évangéliser.net” is a French-language outreach coming from Fr. Gérald Lajeunesse, OMV at our parish in Montreal, Canada. It offers “resources to become better disciples (and) missionaries”. The mailing, disseminated through the popular MailChimp, has a number of thoughts and reflections directed toward the goal of making “Jesus known and loved on the internet and in the world.”

It is time to prepare for the new year and so two of our OMV journals in Europe have published their calendars for 2021.

Sainte Rita magazine from our foundation in Nice, France recently published its “Calendrier 2021”. The theme for the calendar, as announced by Fr. Alain Vaillancourt, OMV, is “gardez ma parole” (“keep my word”), based on the text of John 14:23: “Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him”. Fr. Alain says that each month of the calendar features illustrations that recall passages from the Old and New Testaments and are accompanied by quotes — both from Scripture and from the Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis entitled *Aperuit Illis*.

The 2021 Calendar of *Myriam* magazine (from our Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima at San Vittorino in Rome) is also being published. Fr. Silvano Porta, OMV, places emphasis on the importance of *Laudato Si*, the encyclical letter of Pope Francis. Each month features either a quote from the encyclical or a short commentary on the encyclical.

That’s all the news for now. God bless you and grant you a Blessed Advent, a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! See you in January!