

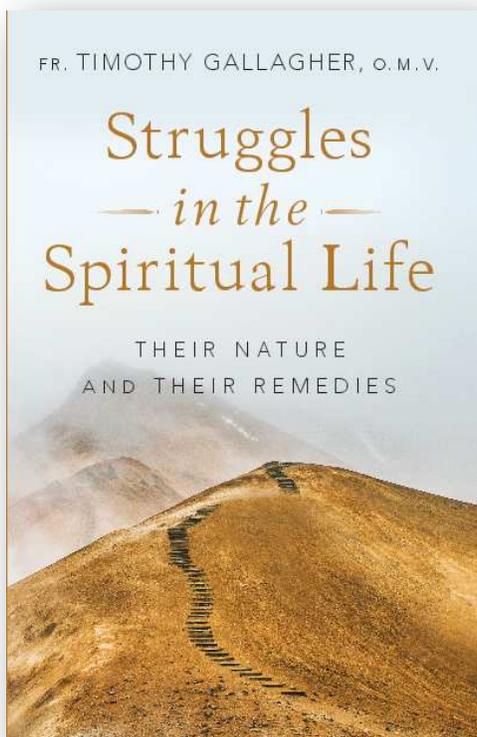
Monthly Media Monitor



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

Volume 13 Issue 5— May 2022

New Book, Streaming, and Much More!



Fr. Tim's new book will be available this summer.

Hello everyone! A Happy Easter Season to you all!

We begin with another new book from Fr. Tim Gallagher, OMV. *Struggles in the Spiritual Life — Their Nature and Their Remedies* addresses common difficulties people experience as they seek to grow in their spiritual life. “With warmth and understanding,” continues the description on the book’s back cover, “Fr. Gallagher carefully identifies...the various forms of spiritual and nonspiritual desolation and supplies the remedy for each. In chapter after chapter, Fr. Gallagher presents a particular struggle as experienced by fictional characters and then provides the advice he gives to those who come to him for spiritual direction about that struggle.”

Most vendors list the availability date of the book as late June or early July. We congratulate Fr. Tim and pray that his book helps many readers on their spiritual journey.

In other media-related news... the OMVs had a very busy Lent and Holy Week, with digital technology and streaming once again giving great assistance for those unable to attend services in person. Not only were Masses and Holy Hours streamed with great regularity, but digital streaming also helped transmit special Holy Week-related events. For example, at the OMV-staffed St. Mary’s Parish in Alton, IL, the God Squad (Youth Group) streamed their annual “Living Stations of Cross,” in which members of the Youth Group recreated certain “still life” scenes for each Station. Also, in Italy, the homilies of Fr. Solomon Ushie, OMV, were streamed every day of Holy Week — “Settimana Santa con Padre Solomon Ushie” is a series of videos that can still be found on the diocesan YouTube Channel (Teramoweb webtv). The series was requested of Fr. Solomon by Teramoweb.

(continued on page 2)

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 World Communications Day is celebrated this year on May 29?

It is a day on which we remember and celebrate the importance of the media in proclaiming the Gospel — the only special day of observance mandated by the Second Vatican Council.

The theme for the day is announced on September 29th of the previous year (the feast of the archangels). The message for the day is published on January 24th (the memorial of St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of journalists). The day itself is celebrated on the Sunday before Pentecost.

The URL for this year's message: <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/communications/documents/20220124-messaggio-comunicazioni-sociali.html>

Statue... (continued)

A reflection for the Lenten Season took the form of an article in the *Denver Catholic* newspaper (Denver, Colorado, USA). The piece, written by André Escaleira, Jr., was called “ ‘Now I begin’ – Get back on track with your Lenten penances” and encouraged readers to “Begin Again” if they found themselves slacking off during the holy season. Our Founder, Venerable Pio Bruno Lanteri, who often recommended his flock to “begin again,” is quoted twice in this article. Here is the URL: <https://denvercatholic.org/now-i-begin-get-back-on-track-with-your-lenten-penances/>

In recent weeks the Oblates in the USA were busy promoting last month's fund-raising “Gala” which took place on Saturday, April 30 in Boston. They did so with short but professional 30-second videos that were posted on Facebook and the omvusa.org website. Entitled “Where a Lifetime of Service Begins,” the video series features various Oblates. For example, in one video, Fr. Bill Brown, OMV briefly describes the journey of a young man from seminary to priesthood ordination and beyond, asking the viewer to consider attending and supporting the Gala. In another video, Deacon Leland Thorpe, OMV briefly shares his vocation story. Other videos were also published in anticipation of the Gala event. The Gala is an annual fundraising event to support the seminarians of the U.S. Province (these include our seminarians in Boston as well as the Philippines).

This summer, in July, the Oblates of the Virgin Mary will hold their General Chapter. At these special meetings in Paris, the Chapter Fathers will discuss important issues concerning the life of the Congregation. Though most of these sessions are closed, digital media

will play an important role in both conveying important information to the Chapter Fathers as well as sharing news with other OMVs around the world. We hope to have more news on this event in our next issue of the Monthly Media Monitor (in September).

We take our usual break for the next three months (summer vacation or winter break, depending on where you live).

May God bless you and we'll see you in September!



Image from the last OMV General Chapter (in 2015). Capitolari with Pope Francis.