

# Monthly Media Monitor



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

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## Media Production Class, New Videos, and More



The Pontifical Gregorian University — Rome, Italy.  
Image: The Gregorian Foundation

Though I serve as Director of Communications, it is very rare that this author (Fr. John Wykes, OMV) includes my own media activities in the Monthly Media Monitor. This issue is an exception.

In a few days, the semester begins at the Gregorian University here in Rome. I will be teaching a course that is part of the School of Social Sciences — the Communications section.

Entitled “Multimedia Production — Telling and Recording Stories,” the class is offered to those working towards their Licentiate degree in Communications at the Gregorian. These would be priests, religious, and lay people from all over the world. The course itself, as described in the catalog, is designed to give each student “the proper basic training to become a video and audio producer, using equipment that is refined but affordable, enabling each student to return to his/her place of work with the capability of producing and distributing quality media content. This course introduces students to the fundamentals of digital video and audio production, covering all aspects of pre-production, production, post-production, and publication.” This “hands-on” course is technical in nature and requires students to plan, shoot, edit, and publish their own video productions.

Additionally, I will be teaching an Audio Production intensive course at the Gregorian in February.

In other OMV media-related news...last month we spoke of the ordinations of Fr. Leland Thorpe, OMV and Fr. Nathan Marzonie, OMV in the USA. This month, we would like to mention a new highlight video

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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 the theme for World Communications Day 2023 has been announced?

The only day of special observance mandated by the Second Vatican Council, World Communications Day is celebrated every year on the Sunday before Pentecost. The theme for the day is announced on September 29 of the previous year (the Feast of the Archangels).

The theme for next year, announced a couple of days ago, is “Speak with the Heart — Veritatem facientes in caritate (Eph. 4:15). The theme is meant to be a companion piece of sorts with this year’s theme, which was “Listen with the Ears of the Heart”.

Speaking with the heart means giving people a reason to hope in our troubled times, the Vatican said in its announcement.



Pope Francis.  
Photo: Fr. John Wykes, OMV

## Media Production Class ... (continued)

of their first Masses. The highlight video, made for the omvusa Facebook page (“Oblates of the Virgin Mary”), captures the emotional moment when Fr. Leland and Fr. Nathan presented their parents with a purificator (wiped with the sacred chrism used to anoint the hands of the new priests) and a stole. The video is brief but certainly touches the heart (get your Kleenex ready). It can be found on the above-mentioned Facebook page as “Fr. Leland and Fr. Nate First Mass”.

Also, the U.S. Province released a video of Br. Jorge Sanchez, OMV; Br. Jonathon Hank, OMV; and Br. Jay-Ar San Juan, OMV talking about their experiences at their respective pastoral year/parish assignments. What was their favorite memory? This video can be found on the above mentioned Facebook page as “OMV Brothers Pastoral Year Reflection”.

Tim Gallagher, OMV was featured in an article entitled “Bestselling Author Guides Readers in Safely Trekking through Periods of Desolation”. The article appeared on Catholic365.com on September 2 and was a way to promote Fr. Tim’s new book, *Struggles in the Spiritual Life: Their Nature and Their Remedies*. Catholic365.com describes itself as a “Catholic-focused article and information portal” featuring Catholic writers and bloggers who post materials that Catholics find helpful and interesting.

On September 23, our new Rector Major, Fr. Luis Costantino, OMV, met with Pope Francis at the Vatican. The two have been friends for years, having known each other in Argentina. Fr. Luis gave the pope a copy of one of Fr. Tim Gallagher’s books on discernment — a Spanish-language edition. Not only did Pope Francis accept the present but he also stated that he heard others “talk about this man” (meaning the author, Fr. Tim). We are happy that even the Holy Father has heard of our very own Fr. Tim.

Other news from Italy — Fr. Tarcisio Pastorino, OMV, a much-loved Oblate in Italy, died on September 5. This sad event was accompanied by the joyful news that he was honored with an article in the diocesan newspaper in Teramo (in the northern part of the country). Tarcisio was assigned to our parish of S. Berarado when he was first ordained and remained there for twelve years. His ministry there is still treasured by the people there – thus the reason for the newspaper article.

This concludes the news for this month. God bless you all and we will see you again in November.