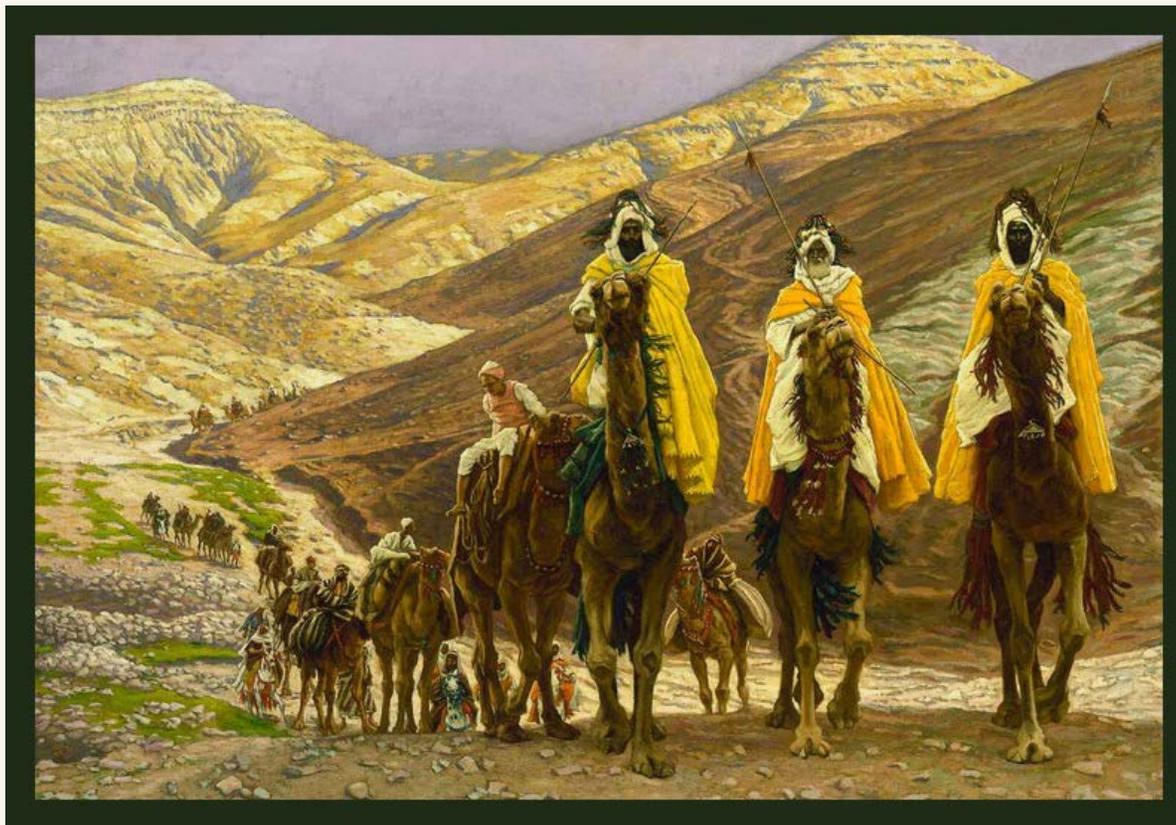


Saint Leo Abbey Oblates Email List



~ Advent: On the way to Jesus Christ. Following the Star ~

FAST FACTS

1. *The Star of Bethlehem*
2. Dec. 14 Christmas party
3. Dec. 20 Christmas concert
4. Dec. 21 Benedictine Circle

**Dear Oblates, Oblate
Novices, and Friends
of Saint Leo Abbey,**

1. *The Star of*

- 5. Jan. 4 Oblate Sunday
- 6. Past broadcast emails
- 7. Guéranger on Gaudete

The main picture is *Journey of the Magi*, by James Tissot, c. 1894

The picture is at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

Bethlehem

Oblate James Janicki wrote a beautiful commentary on *The Star of Bethlehem*, [here on the blog](#).

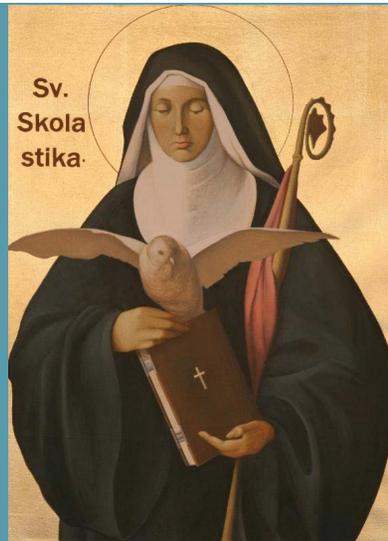
The painting is the largest watercolor painted in the 19th century. It was commissioned for and is on display at the Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Birmingham, England.

2. Dec. 14 Christmas party

Please RSVP by 11:59 tonight Dec. 7!! if you have not RSVPed already. Thank you to everyone who has signed up.

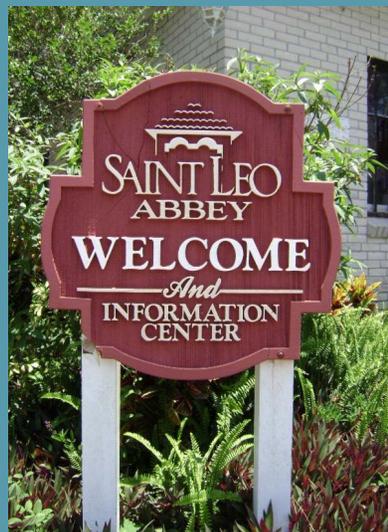
The abbey will be going to the store and all the RSVPs are a good help to the abbey.

The Christmas party details were last emailed Dec. 2 in



Saint Scholastica

This wonderful sister of Saint Benedict knew the love of God and its power. [Here](#) is her story from Chapter 33 of the *Life of Benedict*.



broadcast email #52. A PDF copy of the email will open to "4. Reposting of details about the Christmas Party" [HERE](#).

3. Dec. 20 Abbey Christmas concert

Free and open to everyone. [More](#).

4. Dec. 21 Benedictine Circle

Please RSVP. [More](#).

We will discuss Chapters 8-20 in the Rule -- the Divine Office. Mike Fonfara will lead the discussion.

OBLATES

A brief definition of "Benedictine oblate" is [here](#).

Are you making your own Christmas list of Benedictine books? The [Novice and Oblate Resources Page](#) on the blog has many books that would love to get on your "what I want for Christmas" list.

5. Jan. 4 Oblate Sunday

Reading assignments are [HERE](#).

The RSVP page will be open after Dec. 16.

6. Past broadcast emails

Since December 1 past broadcast emails are posted in PDF versions [HERE](#).

7. Guéranger on Gaudete

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 14, 2014

By Prosper Louis Pascal Guéranger, Order of Saint Benedict (O.S.B.). He was a French Benedictine monk and priest, who served as abbot of Solesmes Abbey from 1837-1875. He is recognized as a central figure among

Benedictines and liturgists of the 19th century.

From The Liturgical Year at www.theliturgicalyear.org

"[On the Third Sunday], again, the Church is full of joy, and the joy is greater than it was.

"It is true that her Lord has not come; but she feels that He is nearer than before, and therefore she thinks it just to lessen somewhat the austerity of this penitential season by the innocent cheerfulness of her sacred rites.

"And first, this Sunday has had the name of *Gaudete* given to it, from the first word of the Introit; [definition of [Introit](#)] it also is honoured with those impressive exceptions which belong to the fourth Sunday of Lent, called Laetare.

"The organ is played at the Mass; the vestments are rose-colour; the deacon resumes the dalmatic, and the subdeacon the tunic; and in cathedral churches the bishop assists with the precious mitre.

"How touching are all these usages, and how admirable this condescension of the Church, wherewith she so beautifully blends together the unalterable strictness of the dogmas of faith and the graceful poetry of the formula of her liturgy!

"Let us enter into her spirit, and be glad on this third Sunday of her Advent, because our Lord is now so near unto us.

"Tomorrow we will resume our attitude of servants mourning for the absence of their Lord and waiting for Him; for every delay, however short, is painful

and makes love sad."

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[Apostolic letter to
read for Jan. 4](#)



[Consecrated Life
Private Facebook
Page](#)

at the
[USCCB](#)



[Announcement of
Year of
Consecrated Life](#)

The above three pictures from left to right are Guido Reni's Michael (in Santa Maria della Concezione church, Rome, 1636) tramples Satan. A mosaic of the same painting decorates St. Michael's Altar in St. Peter's Basilica; Pope Leo XIII who was Pope when Saint Leo Abbey began; and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux or Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face, O.C.D., was a French Discalced Carmelite nun.