



SAINT LOUIS ABBEY



The Oblates of Saint Louis Abbey, Men's Group Saturday Morning Meeting Procedures:

- 1) Oblates sit in choir fashion, side facing side, and begin the meeting by reciting Psalm 110, alternating verses with each side.
- 2) The Oblate in charge of the meeting calls upon a member of his choice to read from the Book of Wisdom, Chapter 9, v.13-18.
- 3) The Oblate in charge then distributes the text he has chosen for Lectio - often, but not necessarily, the Gospel of the Sunday following. If not that particular Gospel, the text should be chosen from Holy Scripture, including the epistles and the psalms. He then chooses another Oblate to read the selection aloud slowly.
- 4) Following the first reading, he may distribute any historical information or theological commentary he may have gathered to expand on the Scripture selection.
- 5) The Oblate in charge then asks another Oblate of his choice to read the passage again more slowly.
- 6) Lectio - 20 minutes.
- 7) The Oblate in charge announces the end of the 20-minute contemplation period. Any Oblate may then explain, without discussion or reference to any other Oblate's reactions, the echoes that have sounded in him.
- 8) When all who wish to speak have finished, reading a section of the Rule occurs; often a chaplain or guest monk is there to elaborate on the Rule or on a subject of his choice. Guest speakers, as well as interested lay guests who participate, are encouraged.
- 9) Meetings end with a prayer said in unison for a particular cause - Oblates who are ill, e.g., or for an intention mentioned by an Oblate - and a prayer for vocations to the Abbey.