WORDS FOR WCCM NEWSLETTER

As I write it was only 2 weeks ago when members of the Oblate community met for a retreat in the lovely Kairos Centre in Roehampton which offered us great hospitality and delicious food! Only 2 weeks and I am still absorbing the import of that weekend when four of us novices were received as Oblates, when we committed to following the Rule of St Benedict, to “strive for God and make your spiritual journey the underpinning reality of your life, finding its influence in everything you do, in everything you are” (John Main). So for me this commitment has arisen as the only possible next step to honouring the Christ within me and live according to his/her precepts. Not a receiving of a diploma but a seeking to an ever broadening out into following that inner light.

The ceremony, which included Rev Jude Carpenter leading the Eucharist and blessings and a talk from Father Laurence on line, was beautiful and prayerful .During the ceremony I was asked to read from Ephesians 3:14-21.which was highly significant as these verses have always resonated for me and been an important part of my journey “…and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love…..”

What was particularly moving for me, and I think for all of us becoming Oblates, was that we were meeting at last with those with whom we had had spiritual sharings with on line over the past few years, and this included my wonderful mentor who stayed with me on the path of formation. Despite technology,( which could be seen as a barrier), we had formed spiritual friendships. I felt, and feel, very blessed to be received in to this loving spiritual family. How true it is that meditation creates community!

Jan Bundy