

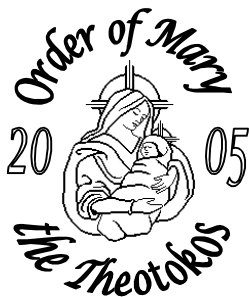
The Theotokan

Order of Mary the Theotokos

www.ecc-usa.org/OMT.html

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Theotokos is Greek for God-bearer. In the OMT, we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in her very special role as Mother of God. Mary dedicated her whole life to promoting Jesus as the Son of God. As members of the OMT, we try to follow her example and bring Jesus' love into this world of ours.

A New Religious Order

Religious Orders have always been formed in the Catholic Faith tradition for basically three purposes: to praise God through prayer and good works; to sanctify the individual order member through leading a life of prayer and dedication; and to bring the loving message of Jesus into the world.

A quick look at our present world situation points out the need for a religious order of people who are living in the world and who dedicate

themselves to praising God and living an exemplary Christian life. Christ is needed in our world today and dedicated people are needed to make his love known.

The OMT is not intended to be "right or left", "conservative or liberal", but simply a witness to the LOVE of Christ for the world. LOVE is what makes good things happen or as our Bishop David says: "Love alone creates."

A Structure for Daily Prayer

Monks and Nuns in religious orders have always built their daily activities around prayer. That prayer was usually the Divine Office.

The Divine Office provides for prayer seven times a day; these are called "hours". In orders with the strictest observance, the first hour was at 2 AM. (Yes, the monks and nuns went to bed early and got up to sing or say Matins at 2 AM. Then, about 5 AM, just before Mass, they would sing the hour of Lauds. Spread out between 9 AM and 3 PM, they would come together to pray Prime, Terse, Sext, and None.

Before dinner they would sing Vespers, and finally

at bedtime, they would sing the evening prayer called Compline.

Their prayer life organized their day and provided a structure around which they included work, daily chores, spiritual reading, meditation, and reading Sacred Scripture.

Well, the OMT is a modern in-the-world religious order. We do not live in a monastery and each of us has many, many daily personal, family, and work obligations. However, our prayers can provide a structure in our lives so that everything important gets done and becomes a blessing for us, our family, the Church, and for the world.



**The Seven
Spiritual Works of Mercy**

To witness God's mercy.
To teach God's word.
To counsel the doubtful.
To comfort the sorrowful.
To bear wrongs patiently.
To forgive all injuries.
To pray for the living and
the dead.

**The Seven
Corporal Works of Mercy**

To feed the hungry.
To give drink to the thirsty.
To clothe the naked.
To visit and ransom the
captives.
To harbor the harborless.
To visit the sick.
To bury the dead.



We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.ecc-usa.org/OMT.html

The official prayerbook of the OMT is a monthly prayerbook publication called the "Magnificat". The Magnificat presents each day a morning prayer, an evening prayer, and a night prayer consisting of psalm, prayers, and readings. It is beautifully organized and provides pegs for us to hang our prayer life.

The prayerbook also provides the Mass text for each day of the month. The cost for 13 issues is currently \$39.95 at www.magnificat.net or call 1-866-273-5215. The Magnificat is a beautiful little publication and well worth the cost.

Communications

There are several avenues of communication that we will use to communicate Order business, prayer requests, spiritual sharing, etc.

Website. The official website of the OMT is on the Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA website at www.ecc-usa.org/OMT.html. We will post issues of the Theotokan off of our webpage as they are published.

E-group. I will be setting up an OMT egroup so that we can all communicate about matters related to the Order. Once it is set up, you

will receive an invitation to join. You will need to respond to that invitation as directed on the invitation letter.

E-mail. As your abbot and spiritual guide, I am interested in what is happening in you life; how you are getting along with your prayer life; and what good works are you involved in doing. So, please e-mail me quarterly, if not monthly.

Further, it is important to me as the abbot that you find value in belonging to the Order. I welcome your thoughts and suggestions on how to improve any aspect of the Order as we go along together.

Consider a life of dedication to Jesus through Mary.

The Order of Mary the Theotokos is a ministry of the Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA
Professed membership is open to all men and women of faith, married or single, regardless of their denominational affiliation.
For additional information, please visit our website.