

Feedback from our Oblates

Dearest Brother Sean

An Oblate is a trainee Seminarian who has been guided by their heart to find a spiritual family where they can be empowered to study different religions and forms of spirituality without dogma or judgment. I was guided to the Tau Community through many visions of St Francis, Jesus and Magdalene. I joined the community 4 months after the passing of my husband and felt from the minute that I walked into the Monastery Of St Francis in Storth that I had finally returned home.

Becoming an Oblate has changed my life! I have lived a spiritual life for many years now, but becoming an Oblate has made it official. It has given me the dignity which my heart had longed for. It has given me understanding not only of spirituality and religion but also of my own road to self realization. I took temporary vows in January this year and took a vow of Providence. I was asked to complete my own Rule of Life and when asked to do that, it was as if all of my life had just slotted into place from as far back as I can remember. The community are a wonderful family, there is always support, love and guidance on hand from any of the members.

Becoming an Oblate has confirmed to me that the only way to live my life is to come from the heart. Once you learn to do this then life becomes far simpler and more positive. The modules really encourage you to go deep within your heart which ultimately will lead you back home to God. The love, support and guidance from the Elders of the Community is fantastic.

Would I recommend anyone join us as an Oblate??? Absolutely!!!! If you are looking to find your way back to God then this is the best way that I can recommend.

The Tree of Life Course which I completed as part of my 6 months probation as an Oblate made all of the above possible. Now, I am in my first year of the 3 year seminary course as a commissioned interfaith Franciscan lay monastic in Divine Service.

Sending love and blessings dear brother

Sr.Di xxxx

Email: (diane.feilder@btinternet.com)

Hello there, my name is Fiona watt. (Sr Fee) I was asked by Br Sean to say why I chose to become an oblate and what it feels like to be an oblate and take the courses.

Well I have to say that I did not consciously intent to become an oblate. I think it was this sneaky plan that God had for me all along that I did not even know about.

A friend of my family who is a member of the Tau community said I had to come along and meet this man called Br Sean. I had never heard of the Tau community before.

I immediately thought, oh no religion!! I am not a religious person, that may sound funny coming from someone who has done the tree of life course and is now doing the three year seminarian course but I am not a religious person. Spiritual yes, I have a great spirituality and always have as far back as I can remember and I respect people and their faiths.

I do believe in God and Jesus though and they have always been a strong part of my spirituality.

One of the things I like about the Tau family is that it is interfaith, embracing all and none, allowing each person to follow their own path in life on their spiritual journey.

Any way I went along to meet Br Sean who greeted me at his door with a huge bear hug which he is very good at giving and his lovely dogs running round his beautiful garden, tails wagging welcoming licks.

It was strange as I was totally out of my comfort zone but I felt as though I had come home.

From then on I sort of got swept along with it all. I followed what my heart was telling me and not my head and suddenly I was doing the tree of life course.

It was not always an easy journey I admit, in fact it was sometimes downright difficult as I was discovering things about myself and my experiences that I had hidden and ignored for a long time.

Br Sean told me it would be a healing experience and I doubted him as it did not feel like a healing experience at all at times but it really was.

I have emerged from it a more confident, stronger, settled person who now embraces my spirituality fully and has healed and still is healing my inner child who can be a bugger at times.

I could not cope with my inner child before but it is as though doing the tree of life course and Br Sean's teachings gave me the tools and insight to address her for the first time ever.

During the oblates tree of life course and the teaching I received I had many times of such amazing feeling run through me, like a light running through my whole body and embracing me.

It was as though my spirituality had been slumbering a bit and joining the Tau community and doing the TOL course woke it up.

I also learned so much about Jesus and Mary Magdalena and it confirmed what I had always known that Mary Magdalena was so much more important than the bible and church made her out to be.

I connected with my guardian angel fully for the first time during the tree of life course and it was a hugely wonderful totally surprising experience.

I would certainly recommend becoming an oblate and doing the tree of life course, for me it changed my life entirely for the better and it continues to improve and I continue to learn every day.

It is good to be a member of the Tau family, and being an oblate makes a person feel even more close a family member and it has so many wonderful benefits.

I was supported by the other oblates and Br Sean during the course, so I never felt on my own.

For me becoming an oblate and doing the tree of life course was a journey in self discovery, a great healing experience, a connection with Mary Magdalena and Jesus and such an enjoyment as the course embraces nature and the universe which are very important things to me in my spirituality.

I really would recommend it to anyone.

Sr Fee Watt.

feewatt27@yahoo.co.uk