

**This Week's Message
from Fr. Amesse
July 20, 2025**



Last week, I wrote about the letter Pope Leo wrote to all priests on the Feast of the Sacred Heart. In that letter, he offered ways for priests to build unity and peace. We have great responsibility!

On June 30, the Oblate Superior General, Father Luis Ignacio Rois Alonso, O.M.I., visited the Shrine and celebrated noon Mass. Later that day, he met with the Shrine's Oblate Associates at the Oblate Residence in Tewksbury. He told us how important the Oblate Associates are in helping bring the charism of St. Eugene de Mazenod, to the world. It is true!

Oblates work hand in hand with the lay people, the Oblate Associates, to bring the good news of Jesus to the people and help minister to the poor. How do they do this? Through their actions! They help feed the hungry, shelter homeless, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, and visit the sick — the corporal works of mercy. The Oblate Associates want to live the charism of our founder St. Eugene.

Fr. Luis also said that we Oblates can learn from the lay people. Lay people live in the world and can help bridge our religious life with the life of lay people. It is also true! To be a great Oblate you must be one with the people. When we are, then we can build unity and peace like Pope Leo tells us to do in the world!

I am far from a great Oblate, but I strive to do my best—all of the Oblates do. Pray for the Oblates as we strive to bring unity and peace to the people and the world.

I remember you at Mass!