Pope Benedict XVI said that “Healing is an essential dimension of the apostolic mission and of Christianity. When understood at a sufficiently deep level, this expresses the entire content of redemption.” The question then is, “Where do I need healing? Where am I wounded? The season of Lent is an invitation to enter into the journey of healing and transformation of the wounds that hold us back from living more fully the life of the Risen Lord that is intended and extended to all of us.”

March 11, 6:00 PM at the Chapel: **Lenten Healing**
by Fr. Shawn Monahan, OMV

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**BILINGUAL PRAISE & WORSHIP**
**HAKUNA BOSTON**
**WEDNESDAYS AT 3:30 PM**

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**YOUNG ADULT GROUP MEETING**

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**The Chapel Gift Shop**
**Item of the Week…**

Books on Leadership and Forming Leaders

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If you would like to contribute to the Chapel by text, please text the word CHAPEL, leave a space and then the dollar amount to 617-209-2779. Thank you for your generosity!

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If you would like to join the Oblates of the Virgin Mary?

Contact our Vocation Director
Fr. John Luong, OMV
at frjohnow@gmail.com
or visit omvusa.org
A Reflection on the Beatitudes 
by Fr. James Doran, OMV

“But woe to you who are rich, 
for you have received your consolation. 
Woe to you who are filled now, 
for you will be hungry. 
Woe to you who laugh now, 
for you will grieve and weep. 
Woe to you when all speak well of you, 
for their ancestors treated the false prophets in this way. ”

What is wrong with being rich? Well-fed? What is wrong with laughter or being popular? Moses told the Israelites that if they obeyed, they will be blessed and if they disobeyed, they will be cursed, and the worst curse is exile. They were disobedient and they were forced into exile, the City was destroyed, and the Temple was torn down. Now, Jesus is preaching to Jews who know the history of their people.

“Blessed are you who are poor, 
for the kingdom of God is yours. 
Blessed are you who are now hungry, 
for you will be satisfied. 
Blessed are you who are now weeping, 
for you will laugh.
Blessed are you when people hate you, 
and when they exclude and insult you, 
and denounce your name as evil... 

Jesus seems to be saying that blessings are the curses and curses are the blessings. It is because the way you build up your treasure in heaven is through poverty, hunger, mourning, and persecution for the sake of the Gospel. Earthly blessings like wealth and popularity are dangerous because wealthy, well-fed, popular people tend to become complacent and forget that they need God while poor, hungry and unpopular people know they need God. Laughter and physical wellbeing that is rooted in earthly joy distracts from the Kingdom of God. Your laughter will turn into mourning if you neglect God and your relationship with Him, and you will miss out on heaven.

Earthly curses remind us of what is most important. In that way they are spiritual blessings. Think of people who have had near-death experiences and have their eyes opened to what is really important in life. Think of people who have had great losses in life, and because of that find a deeper relationship with God. 

St. Ignatius of Loyola called the following THE PRINCIPLE AND FOUNDATION: God created human beings to praise, reverence, and serve God, and by doing this, to save their souls. God created all other things on the face of the earth to help fulfill this purpose.

From this it follows that we are to use the things of this world only to the extent that they help us to this end, and we ought to rid ourselves of the things of this world to the extent that they get in the way of this end. For this it is necessary to make ourselves indifferent to all created things as much as we are able, so that we do not necessarily want health rather than sickness, riches rather than poverty, honor rather than dishonor, a long rather than a short life, and so in all the rest, so that we ultimately desire and choose only what is most conducive for us to the end for which God created us.
The Oblates of the Virgin Mary is an international religious community of priests and brothers serving in Italy, France, Austria, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Nigeria, the United States and the Philippines. The Oblates are involved in retreat and parish missions, spiritual direction, parish work, the mass media, clergy formation, and the foreign missions. The US Province of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary is dedicated to St. Ignatius of Loyola, and includes communities in Massachusetts, Illinois, Colorado, California and the Philippines. The OMV US Province House is at St. Clement’s in Boston.

The OMV motto, “Mariam cogita, Mariam invoca” “Think of Mary, Call on Mary” is taken from a homily by St. Bernard.