



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MOUNT MICHAEL BENEDICTINE ABBEY ANNOUNCES ELECTION OF NEW ABBOT

Elkhorn, NE-Mount Michael Benedictine Abbey announces the election of a new abbot who will serve as superior for the Abbey. Today Father Michael Liebl, O.S.B. was elected as abbot for the Mount Michael community.

Father Michael was born July 5, 1950, the son of James Philip Liebl and Velma Tasset Liebl in Wichita, Kansas. In baptism he received the name James Michael. In the fall of 1964 he came to Mount Michael, which was then a minor seminary. Upon graduation from Mount Michael, James Michael went to the St. Thomas Seminary in Denver, Colorado for one year. But after that year his response to God's invitation seemed to point clearly to the monastic life. He returned to Mount Michael, sought admission into the community, and made his monastic profession August 1, 1971.

Father Michael's life has been a full one since his profession. He attended Creighton University 1971-1974, majoring in science. This was followed by three years of theology at St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota, 1974-1977 with one semester in the Holy Land as part of his biblical studies. Since ordination, on August 19, 1977 he has been instructor of physics in our high school and a tennis coach. The National Science Teachers Association recently awarded (2006) Father Michael Liebl O.S.B. with the Vernier Technology Award. This award recognizes the innovative use of data collection technology using a computer, graphing calculator, or handheld in the science classroom.

This is the beginning of a new chapter in the history of Mount Michael Benedictine Abbey. Abbot Michael Liebl, O.S.B. is the third abbot in the history of Mount Michael.

If you have any questions, please call Vanessa Dobles in the Development Office at 402.289.2541 ext. 1204. Thank you.

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