

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
of the
Oblates and Missioners of St. Michael**

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

We, the undersigned, acting as incorporators of a corporation under the Revised Iowa Nonprofit Corporation Act, adopt the following Articles of Incorporation for such corporation.

ARTICLE I

The name of the corporation is **Oblates and Missioners of St. Michael.**

ARTICLE II

The period of existence is **PERPETUAL.**

ARTICLE III

The purposes for which the corporation is organized are:

1. To be a community of prayer and faith in the tradition of Carmelite, Franciscan, Montfort, Benedictine, and Ignatian spiritualities promoting and helping each other of the members to truly be holy as He is holy and to truly be His disciples.
2. To be a community of faithful baptized and confirmed Catholics in good standing -- cleric, religious, and lay -- who are called to seek the face of God in prayer, to find Christ in community, to serve our brothers and sisters in need, and to confront Satan and his schemes in Spiritual Warfare.
3. To establish associate organizations such as Oblates, Fraternities, Confraternities, and Associations with purposes and membership qualifications determined by the By-Laws.
4. To promote the spread of the Gospel to all nations and people, evangelizing and discipling them in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and for His Glory in whatever means we have available including, but not limited to, various technologies including Internet, Internet Radio, broadcast radio, satellite, television, electronic publishing, and print publishing and by workshops, missions, seminars, courses, lectures, and speaking engagements of whatever sorts whether conducted by electronic, Internet, and broadcast means or by traditional means of personal testimony and evangelization in face-to-face live bodily presence.
5. To teach, provide apology, and catechetics of the traditional and historic Catholic faith in loyalty and fidelity to the genuine and authentic *Magisterium* of the Roman Catholic Church, and to its legitimate Supreme Pontiff, the Bishop of Rome, Servant of all the Servants of God, the Pope of the Catholic Church, and to do so through all means available to us as including but not limited to those methods outlined in this Article III.
5. To publish books, magazines, pamphlets, and other materials, either in print or electronic form, and to produce video, Internet video or audio presentations, film, or television programs, and computer CD media on issues of the traditional and historic Catholic Faith, spirituality, the faith life, contemporary problems, general catechesis, and other subjects that relate or affect the People of God.

6. To offer pastoral, spiritual, and deliverance counseling or other counseling services to those in need.
7. To offer Spiritual Direction and to offer our members and interested public the opportunity to attend private or guided retreats at facilities located in our resident facilities or in specially built facilities for Retreat activities owned by the Order or by others, or at other third-party provided facilities suitable for retreat purposes.
8. To offer seminars courses, lectures, workshops, publications, and video publications in print, live presentations, broadcast media, Internet media, or computer media on issues of Spiritual Warfare, the issues of the dangers of the Occult and the New Age, and on all matters of the Catholic Faith..
9. To form contemplative and active monastic, semi-eremitic, and secular expressions of our Order as defined by the By-Laws.
10. To establish and to financially, physically, and spiritually support the establishment of a motherhouse and its resident celibate brothers to act as a headquarters for the Order. This motherhouse may be located anywhere in the world.
11. To establish and to financially and spiritually provide for subordinate houses, convents, monasteries, monastic compounds and *lauras* composed of resident monastics and semi-eremitics in accordance with the specific guidelines of our By-Laws, and to found these subordinate entities in various parts of the country in which the mother house resides or even the world.
12. To seek alliances, associations, affiliations, and federations with other like organizations, apostolates, and monastic communities who are loyal to the Pope and *Magisterium* of the Catholic Church, and whose purposes and activities are compatible with this Order, and in that such a relationship may be beneficial to all involved. This relationship may be one where the Order is *paterfamilias* to the organization in which we establish such a relationship, or it may be co-equal, or in some instances the organization may be *paterfamilias* to the Order. These relationships and their nature shall be detailed in the By-Laws of the Order.
13. To maintain the name of the *Order of the Legion of St. Michael* as a trade name, and to create other trade names commensurate with our ministry projects as provided in the By-Laws.
14. To perform other such acts and to conduct other programs to promote the contemplative and active monastic and consecrated secular life in Christ and the apostolic life in the world in the name of Christ as the By-Laws so provide.

ARTICLE IV

The Corporation **WILL HAVE MEMBERS**. The Corporation shall define its classes of members and the qualifications and rights of each class in its By-Laws.

ARTICLE V

Directors and Officers of the Corporation are elected by the General Chapter of the Corporation, such General Chapter composed of the voting members of the Corporation, or as otherwise provided for in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VI

1. **Exempt Purposes:** The Corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, or scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions that qualify as an exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

2. **Distribution of Earnings:** No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III hereof.
3. **Political Activities:** No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.
4. The Corporation shall also adhere to the *Political Activity Guidelines for Catholic Organizations* published by the Office of the General Counsel of the National Council of Catholic Bishops/United States Catholic Conference on February 20, 2000, or the corresponding guidelines published by the aforementioned body, or by their successors.
5. **Other Limitations:** Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
6. **Dissolution of the Corporation:** Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.
7. **Loyalty to Remain with the Bishop of Rome, the Pope of the Catholic Church:** The Corporation shall see to it that all its provisions and By-Laws, its mission, and all its apostolates, activities, goals, and purposes shall remain in communion with and fidelity, loyalty, and obedience to the genuine and legitimate, Bishop of Rome, Vicar of Jesus Christ, Successor of St. Peter-Prince of the Apostles, the Supreme Pontiff of the Universal (Catholic) Church, Patriarch of the West, Primate of Italy, Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Roman Province, Sovereign of the State of the Vatican City, Servant of the Servants of God, and the Magisterium in union with him. This provision remains in perpetuity and may not be amended.

ARTICLE VII

Initial Registered Office available upon request.

ARTICLE VIII

Initial Board of Directors available upon request.

ARTICLE IX

The name of the incorporator available upon request.

ARTICLE X

These articles may be amended in the manner authorized by the By-laws at the time of the amendment, except for Article VI (7), which cannot be amended but must be maintained for as long as the Corporation exists.