



## BC District

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November 28, 2017

## BC News

2017-009

### *Birthday Greetings*

Andrew Stendzina OMI	November 10
Gordon Cook OMI	November 27

Ron Rissling, OMI	December 1
Joachim Singarajah, OMI	December 19
Bp. Adam Exner, OMI	December 24

### *Anniversaries - December 8<sup>th</sup>*

Terry McNamara, OMI	50	Perpetual Vows
Garry LaBoucane, OMI	35	Perpetual Vows



### **New Contact Information**

Father Bernard McCosham, OMI, has moved to St. Vincent's: Honoria Conway, an assisted living residence for seniors. His new physical address is as follows:

Rm 418 – Honoria Conway  
4875 Heather Street  
Vancouver, BC, V5Z 0A7  
Direct line – 604-736-4399

Until further notice, his mailing address will remain at 1311 The Crescent, Vancouver, BC V6H 1T7.

### **More notes from Father Garry:**

I just returned from the Study Days for the clergy from the Archdiocese of Vancouver and the Diocese of Kamloops. It was an excellent week and also a first for the two groups to come together. That means that Father George LaGrange was able to join us. It was also a first for Father Thomas A.P. Kurudeepan. I met Father TAP many years ago in Rome, when the Oblate Vocation Directors gathered from around the world. Anyhow, I am delighted with the presence of Father TAP in our District and in St. Paul's Parish in North Vancouver. Welcome aboard, Father TAP! Other OMI Lacombe Oblates at the Study Days included Father Gordon Cook and Father Andrew Stendzina. Ecce quam bonum....

In the first week of this month, I had an opportunity to visit Father George LaGrange where he lives and works in Salmon Arm. He treated me to a delicious lunch in the pub across the street from the church. Both of us were members of the Alberta Saskatchewan Province at one time so it was a lot of fun catching up. After that, I drove over to Kelowna to visit with Father Ron Dechant. We have known each other for a number of years as well. He drove us over to Penticton to have supper with Mother Cynthia, who I have also known

and respected for many years. Another excellent visit! Then, there was the drive through the mountains on snow covered and icy roads back to Vancouver. Ah ha...prayer does wonders!

In October, we had our Oblate retreat at Mission, hosted by the Benedictines. Archbishop Emeritus Sylvain Lavoie, OMI did a superb job as the Director. He is very good with the power point during his presentations and our prayer time. He is also a very good homilist, as I knew he would be due to the many years he devotes to the Lac Ste. Anne Pilgrimage.

Folks are still talking about the time spent with Father Bonga. I am sorry that I missed that opportunity. Apparently, it was an awesome gathering of the vowed Oblates and the Associate Oblates. While I think of it, I would like to thank Father Jim Dukowski for stepping into the role that Father John Brioux had with the Oblate Associates. And, thank you to the Oblates at The Crescent and Tecumseh for now hosting the gathering of the members of the District Oblate community on the morning of the fourth Saturday of every month.

Congratulations to Father Bernie McCosham, who has moved to Honoria Conway, which is an assisted living residence for seniors. He continues to be a missionary by being the first Oblate to move in there. Seems to me that we should have kissed his feet before he left for mission territory!

One final note- I dropped in to see Father Gerry Guillet on my way back from Study Days. He is as cheerful as ever. He was in the hospital a while back but seems to be recovering nicely. Thanks be to God!

That's it for now. As people are decorating their homes with Christmas lights, may we always be children of the Light of the World.

With gratitude and prayer,  
Garry LaBoucane, OMI

*Happy Feast Day to all*

