

HIGHLIGHTS

ONTARIO DISTRICT NEWS

OMI Lacombe Canada

DATES TO REMEMBER:

DECEMBER 8, IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FEAST DAY

FEBRUARY 16, APPROBATION OF THE CONSTITUTIONS &
RULES

FEBRUARY 26 TO MARCH 2, COMMUNITY DAYS, ARNPRIOR



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NEW DATES FOR COMMUNITY DAYS

As many of you are aware, OMI Lacombe Convocation comes up again in 2018 and is scheduled for April 9-13, in Cornwall.

Accordingly, the date for our Community Days has been moved forward to make sure we were in a position to participate in any process that OMI may put in place prior to the Convocation program.

Please mark your calendars for **Community Days** for the Ontario District, **February 26 to March 2**. Space has been reserved at Galilee Centre for our gathering.

Look forward to seeing you there!

Roy Boucher, OMI

A REFLECTION ON ALL SOULS DAY

Halloween is the beginning of the three days of Allhallowstide, which also includes All Saints Day, and the lesser known All Souls Day. On All Saints Day, November 1, Catholics celebrate the lives and works of saints already in heaven, including those without a feast day of their own. In many countries, All Saints Day is recognized as a national holiday.

All Souls Day on the other hand, is a day to remember and pray for all those who have died, in particular, the souls in purgatory. Unlike All Saints Day, November 2 is not a holy day of obligation, but priests are able to celebrate extra Masses that day for the dead. As well, people in countries around the world have adopted their own traditions to honor the deceased. Festivities typically begin on All Saints Day and continue through the end of All Souls Day. From lighting up cemeteries with thousands of candles in Poland to sharing a meal at a gravesite in Peru, these culture-rich celebrations are as unique as they are beautiful.

OBLATE WORLD – As Oblates we remember and celebrate our Oblate dead annually on November 3rd. The Ontario District Community also celebrates our deceased members during our annual Community Days and Annual Retreat.



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JPIC OMI: CATHOLIC HIGHER EDUCATION ENGAGING THE FUTURE

Fr. Louis Lougen, OMI, Superior General of the Congregation of Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, participated in a dynamic symposium on Catholic Higher Education and its role for the future on Wednesday, October 11. The symposium, a collaboration of OMI JPIC and the University of Saint Paul, was opened by Fr. Luc Tardif, OMI, Provincial of Notre Dame du Cap. Bro. Len Rego, Director of JPIC, provided those gathered with the objectives for the day.

Fr. Louis participated in a panel with Chantal Beauvais, Rector, Saint Paul University and Fr. Ken Forster, Provincial, OMI Lacombe Canada. Their presentations featured comments on what it means to be a Catholic university, the new heart, new spirit and new mission of the Oblates in the context of

their 200th anniversary, and the potential for personal and collective conversions towards social transformation.

Following the symposium, Fr. Louis was able to spend some time with the members of OMI Lacombe in Ottawa.



Photo courtesy of Fr. David Perrin

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

Ron Kedrosky, continues to deal courageously with cancer. The Galilee BOC was delighted to welcome him to their November 3rd gathering. Ron renewed his commitment as an Associate on that occasion. He genuinely enjoys the cards and mail that come from our community.

Carl Kelly was recently diagnosed with lung cancer, and chemo and radiation are not options given the location of the tumour. He remains at Springhurst and welcomes visitors and phone calls.

Hugh James MacDonald, OMI, is exploring with his doctors the options for kidney dialysis, much of which

has significant implications for his day-to-day life.

Jack McCann, OMI, continues his chemo treatment for lung cancer. His sense of humour and creativity are very hard to repress in spite of the side-effects of the treatment.

Chris Rushton, OMI, resides now in Emmanuel House Palliative Care Centre in Hamilton. He is safe and comfortable. And the staff see Fr. Chris not just as a patient but also as the in-house chaplain.

Please send any suggestions for prayers to McE Galbreath at ontariodistrict@omilacombe.ca.

GOOD LEADERS AND GOOD SHEPHERDS

Let me present some information about my session with the Good Leaders and Good Shepherds during this past two years. The course was provided by the Catholic Leadership Institute in Toronto.

The purpose of this Institute is to provide pastoral leadership formation and consulting services that strengthen the confidence and competence in our ministry, enabling us to articulate a vision for our local church, inviting us to go forth giving our gifts to those who we lead, so we can create more vibrant faith communities rooted in Jesus Christ.

I am so happy to have taken this course. After almost two years of training I can say it was worth doing. Now I feel more confident doing my ministry; the tools that they gave us are very useful for people like me who are entering into Canadian Church ministry. This training course provides newcomer priests a solid understanding of the pastoral role and the organization of parishes in this part of the world. I want to express my gratitude to Tony and Jarek, my brothers, for encouraging me to take this training session at the beginning of my ministry here in Hamilton.

Heinner Paucar, OMI

Upcoming Events at Galilee Centre

Faith & Inclusivity: the Gift of the Other

Speaker: Vivianne LaRiviere, Art of Soul Care
November 21, 2017, 11:45-3:00

Faith & Inclusivity: the Gift of the Other

Speaker: Joe Gunn, Citizens for Public Justice
November 28, 2017, 11:45-3:00

Christmas Luncheon

December 14, 2017

Reservations necessary

Dickens & Dinner

December 17, 2017, 3:00 p.m.

Reservations required, tickets \$40

For more information on these and other events, contact Galilee Centre at 613-623-4242, ext 21, or info@galileecentre.com.



HIGHLIGHTS

FROM ST. EUGENE

If you could place an ear to the keyhole when I am talking about you, or read what I write about you, you would understand what you mean to me, but you do know it and it is in the presence of God that you repay me my love. Your virtues, your devotion to God's glory and to the service of the Church will be my glory and my consolation in the midst of the assembly of the saints. As I wait for that, it brings a secret joy to my heart and I bless you and ask you for yet more prayers and for you to keep me ever in mind.

Letter to Jean Baptiste Mille and the students in Billens, 24 January 1831, EO VIII n 383.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Friday, December 8

Immaculate Conception Feast Day
Canadian Martyrs Church, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 16

Approbation of the Constitutions &
Rules
Springhurst Residence, 4:00 p.m.

Community Days

February 26 to March 2
Galilee Centre, Arnprior

St. Joseph Parish



DYING WELL

Saturday, November 18

10:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Held at Sacre Coeur Parish
591 Cumberland Street

This will be an informative and reflective day of spiritual reflections on 'dying well'. You will be guided through a 5 chapter book, each chapter offering helpful suggestions for the person who is seriously ill as well as for family members and medical teams.

How to say ... I'M SORRY. THANK YOU. I LOVE YOU. GOODBYE.

There will be an opportunity for small group conversations and questions. Most of us struggle with this most challenging stage of our life journey and yet it can be such a graced experience of transformation if one prepares well now. Hope you can join us!



Presenter: Sr. Rosemary O'Toole is an experienced spiritual director at The Upper room Home of Prayer in Ottawa. She has written a book about her experiences as she accompanied her mother through her dying process. Love, compassionate presence heals and supports the dying journey into new life.

FEE: \$15 (includes the Dying Well book)
Please bring a bag lunch. Beverages will be provided.

FOR REGISTRATION, CONTACT:
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PLEASE REGISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE—NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 5, 2017

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