

Christmas 2017

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas, just like the one I used to know...in sunny Alberta. The snow is coming down like crazy here in Vancouver, but it will turn to rain this afternoon. Too slushy already for angels in the snow! I have winter tires, so I am good. As for the rest of Vancouver, I'm not so sure; but I will be venturing out this evening to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in one of the parishes. Will I need a snow plough or a boat to get there?



We had a grand celebration on December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It was a very foggy evening, so some were not able to join us at Pandosy. Father Mark Blom was in town, and he happily led us in prayer and song. I appreciated his insight into our lives as Oblates as he reflected on the experience he had of taking pictures of the statue of our Blessed Mother in the General House. It is always a joy to hear Mark speak. Thank you, Brother! We were also blessed to have the

company of Father Mario Azrak, who was travelling with Mark at that time. And, thank you to the Pandosy Community who hosted the event!

I had the good fortune to pick up Brother Cosmas Kithinji, OMI at the international airport. He came from San Antonio, Texas where he is currently studying theology. He has been with the Oblates twelve years now, ever since he was in high school in Kenya. He was hardly prepared for winter up here, but his friends in Burns Lake, BC will be making sure that he is warmly dressed. They graciously paid for his airfare, and he also has an opportunity to meet the folks in our District and visit as well as speak to our faith communities. So many blessings!

And, I give thanks to the Lord for each of you, your loved ones, and your communities. I keep you close to me in prayer as we once again celebrate this wondrous event of the Word pitching His tent amongst us. Peace to us all now and in the New Year ahead!

Fraternally yours in our Lord, Jesus Christ, and Mary Immaculate,

Garry LaBoucane, OMI

NOTA BENE ... Any BC District members who wish to make a **CONTRIBUTION** to the District Community in 2017 need to have same in the Treasurer's Office by December 27th, 2017.

Please also note that '**full-year**' **Financial Reports for 2017** and **GST Reports for July-December 2017** will be due by January 31st, 2018. Thanks for your cooperation.

Contact info update

Fr. Gerry Guillet's cell number: 604-799-7049

Fr. Bob Haggarty's correct address: 1174 Main Street, Lillooet, BC V0K 1V0
Email: rhagus7@gmail.com
Phone: 250-2564552

Fr. Bernie McCosham's email: bmccosham@shaw.ca

Hope, Peace, Joy and Love

