

HIGHLIGHTS

ONTARIO DISTRICT NEWS

OMI Lacombe Canada



DATES TO REMEMBER: DECEMBER 8TH CELEBRATION, CANADIAN MARTYRS CHURCH

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HUGH JAMES MACDONALD, OMI APRIL 1, 1946 – OCTOBER 29, 2018

Hugh James MacDonald, OMI, died unexpectedly while struggling with health issues on Monday, October 29, 2018 at the Ottawa General Hospital. He was 72. He is survived by members of his religious community, the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, and his aunt, Mary MacDougall, his siblings: Isabel, Ken, Betty, Bernard (Mary), Claire (James McLean), and his nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his parents and his brother, Kevin.

Fr. Jim was born in Antigonish, NS, April 1, 1946, to Catherine and Hugh. He professed his first vows on September 8, 1966 and his final vows on September 7, 1970 as a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate. Fr. Jim was ordained to the priesthood on December 21, 1985.

Fr Jim's 33 years as a priest included ministry among the Indigenous communities in Davis Inlet, NL, Indian Brook, NS and Fort Francis, ON; pastor at Canadian Martyrs, Ottawa and at three parishes in Nova Scotia: Margaree, Sheet Harbour and Bridgewater. He also served a number of years as a chaplain with Corrections Canada in Ontario.

The Oblate Vigil Prayer Service was held on Thursday, November 1 at 7:00 p.m. at Canadian Martyrs Church. The Funeral Mass was held on Friday, November 2, 11 a.m., and Fr. Jim was buried at St. Theresa Cemetery at 2:00 p.m.

Fr. Jim had only just arrived at Springhurst Residence, when it became apparent that he was not well. We are grateful to Fr. Jim's caregivers in both Nova Scotia and Ottawa.

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

Ron Kedrosky's cancer treatments are not working and have practically ceased. When he asked his doctors for a prognosis, they told him "six months". Ron attended the latest Galilee BOC gatherings and it's his hope to continue to do so for as long as he can. Let's keep Ron and his family in our prayers as they continue to relish the time that they have.

Bro. Wayne Jarvo, OMI has just moved to Colonel By Residence, where he will spend some time adjusting to

independent living. He would love to see visitors; he is in Room 264. Please support his healing and recovery with your prayers.

Gerald Guillet, OMI, died recently in Vancouver. A Memorial Mass was celebrated at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 3rd at St. Joe's for Fr. Gerald. He was born in Ottawa and his only living sister – Barbara (Jack) Morneau – lives in Ottawa.

HIGHLIGHTS

For real change, we must get at four roots deeper than church structures

by Joan Chittister (Sept 20, 2018)

In the midst of the angst that has accompanied the revelation of unparalleled amounts of sexual abuse of children in the Catholic Church, the cry for reform gets louder by the day.

For some, it's a call for the elimination of celibacy as an unnatural and therefore impossible way of life. For others, it's about barring homosexuals from the priesthood, as if homosexuality was in essence a model of immorality rather than simply another state of nature — just like heterosexuality with its own immoral aberrations. For many, it's about a lack of psychosocial development in seminaries; for others, it's about the liberalization of the church since the Second Vatican Council, no matter that the bulk of assaults happened, apparently, before the end of the council.

Indeed, there are as many explanations for this crisis in morals, spirituality, church and trust as there are people, dioceses, parents, priests, lawyers, whomever. But there is one element on which everyone seems to agree: **There must be repentance. There must be accountability. There must be reform.**

Good. And that looks like what?

Most of the cries for reform also call for reform of structures. A change of structures is obviously imperative.

At the same time, I do not agree that a change of structures alone will really change anything much at all. Indeed, we must "**delve into the roots**" of it. Of which, I think, **there are at least four.**

Francis is painfully clear about one such root of it — **the scourge of clericalism** that creates a caste system in Catholic Christianity.

What Francis' statement fails to unmask, however, is **the second issue** that must be addressed: The fact is that **clericalism touched more than the clergy**. It was Catholic police, lawyers, staff, even parents who shielded pedophiles by refusing to make complaints, listen to children, or rip away the secrecy that shielded them. It says that the theology of the church itself must be retaught. It says that the rest of the church itself must grow up to be equal to the Christianization of the church itself.

A third dimension of the problem is certainly **the theology of obedience** that derives, of course, from our definition of church and the role of the clergy but affects the personal lives of Catholics in a particularly insidious way. It turns obedience in the church — a commitment to "listening to the Spirit" — into blind obedience, a kind of military code attached to a series of clerical commanding officers.

And finally, under it all, the **fourth necessary element** of reform lies in **the theology of priesthood** that insists that the ontology of the human being is changed by priestly ordination. Translation: a priest is not like other human beings. Ordination gives them a special mark, an eternal one. Then, out of that reasoning, they connect their special character, their special place in the church, their special authority, their special holiness.

What we finally wind up with are questions of church, clericalism, obedience and human ontology unanswered and unaddressed.

What we wind up with is a church still living in the last century while pretending to have answers to the questions of this one. But that's just what they did in the 16th century when Martin Luther wanted to talk about celibacy, the sale of relics, and publishing the Bible in the vernacular so that everybody, not just the clergy, could read it.

The truth is that **real reform depends on the teachings of the church**. Not simply on a change of structures.

As the song says, "When will they ever learn?"

Article abridged. For the full text, please email McE Galbreath at ontariodistrict@omilacombe.ca, and I would be pleased to send it to you.

INVITATION

For an opportunity to discuss the views expressed in this article by Joan Chittister with Oblates and Oblate Associates, join the Faith Formation gathering on Thursday, November 15 at 6:45 p.m. at Springhurst Residence. All are welcome!

Upcoming at Galilee Centre

Taizé Ecumenical Prayer Service

Sunday Evenings 7:00 to 7:45 PM

October 14; November 18; December 16, 2018

A service of song, silence and contemplation in the tradition of the Taizé community. Taizé works to be a "parable of community" – a sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and between separated peoples. **Cost:** Goodwill donations are welcome.

Lunch and Learn: Introduction to the Feldenkrais Method

From 11:30 to 2:00 pm

Wednesday October 31, Monday November 5 and Monday November 19, 2018

The Feldenkrais Method is a form of body awareness that provides a relaxed, safe environment in which to discover steps towards wholeness. Each lunch and learn has a different focus – come to one or all three. You will come away with some practical tools to release stress. **Cost:** \$25/session (includes full buffet lunch).

Concert: An Evening with GraceNote

Friday evening @8 pm

December 7, 2018

An evening of inspirational Advent and Christmas themed traditional and non-traditional music featuring the unique harmonies of Gracenote. Members of GraceNote are people of grace, faith and amazing talent who share a history of connection with Galilee. We are delighted that their journeys have brought them back our way. **Cost:** \$20 (light refreshments will be available).

Advent Contemplative Retreat

Facilitators: Susan Kehoe and Mary Ellen Berry of Contemplative Outreach of Eastern Ontario
December 9-11, 2018

Come away and pause awhile in the silence of community, in the silence of nature, in the silence of the heart. *You are invited to participate in a 2-day immersion into contemplative wisdom, practice and silence.* **Cost:** \$290 (Some limited bursaries are available).

REMINDER

GST/HST Reports

Please gather and submit to the Ontario District Office your sales slips for the January to June 2018. GST /HST reporting continues to bring a significant amount of money back into the community.



HIGHLIGHTS

FROM ST. EUGENE

"Like Jesus walking along the borders of Samaria, we too are standing before different understandings of culture, ethnicity, religion, and gender, invited into a new conversation. The world no longer works in the same way. Old borders are breaking down even as new boundaries are emerging. Our task is to be missionaries in this new pluralistic, sensitive, and complex

reality where, like Jesus, we are invited to "cross over" and imitate his self-emptying so as to enter more fully into the life of the other, particularly the lives of the poor. The God we proclaim must be the humble, kenotic God that Jesus incarnated."

Acts of the 34th Chapter: Letter from the Capitulants of the 34th General Chapter - Witnessing to Hope, September 28, 2004, p. 12



ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST VOWS

Fr. Antonio Pannunzi, October 3 (51 years)

ANNIVERSARY OF FINAL VOWS

Fr. Jan Rademaker, October 4 (49 years)

Fr. Frank Kavanagh, October 7 (69 years)

ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

Fr. Richard Kelly, October 2 (47 years)

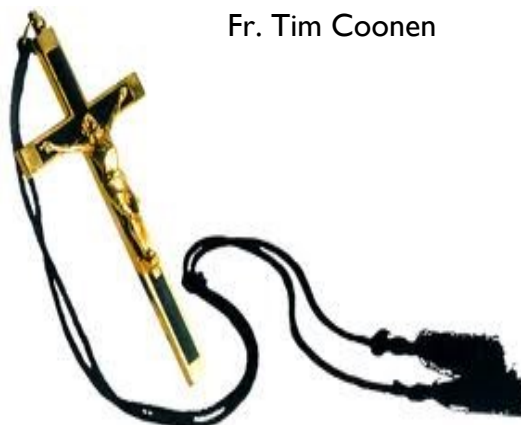
Fr. Tim Coonen, October 7 (35 years)

CELEBRATIONS



BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Fr. Normand Bonneau | Oct 5 |
| Fr. Ollie Rich | Oct 8 |
| Fr. Tim Coonen | Oct 10 |



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