



In Our Prayers

Father Thomas Bilodeau, OMI passed away on February 5, 2019 at his home at Foyer Lacombe, St. Albert, AB at the age of 91. Son of Thomas Bilodeau and Regina Moreau, he was born in Edmonton, AB on July 10, 1927.

Fr. Alfred Groleau, OMI celebrated a funeral mass on February 11, 2019 at St. Albert Parish; interment followed at the Oblate Plot of the St. Albert Catholic Cemetery.

Thomas pronounced his First Vows with the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate in 1950 and was ordained a priest on July 8, 1956 in Rome. Fr. Tom exercised his ministry in Edmonton at Collège St. Jean, Ste Anne Parish and on Whyte Ave as animator of Listener's Corner. He retired at Foyer Lacombe in 2012.

May he rest in peace.



Père Thomas Bilodeau
1927-2019

Mr. Andrew Herklotz, brother of Father Jack Herklotz, OMI passed away on February 21, 2019 at the age of 62 years. A funeral mass will be celebrated at St. Charles Parish, Edmonton on Friday, March 1st at 1 pm.

March Anniversaries



Birthday

March 23 – Fr. Alfred Groleau

Anniversary of First Vows

March 25 – Fr. Jean-Paul Vantroys (73 years)

February 18 Celebration (by Debbie Doornbos)

On Monday, February 18 we gathered at Star of the North Retreat House to celebrate the 193rd anniversary of the Constitution and Rules of Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Oblates, Oblate Associates and friends filled the chapel for the celebration of the Eucharist, which included a renewal of vows for Oblates and a renewal of commitment for Oblate Associates. This year we celebrated the first commitment of three new Oblate Associates, David Gledhow, Helen Gledhow and Faith Paul, who received their Oblate crosses after making a public commitment to live their lives formed in the charism of St. Eugene de Mazenod. There was a sense of joy in the chapel that evening—a joy that spilled out naturally into the Hearth Room where we continued to celebrate with a social that included lots of tasty goodies and refreshments, and great conversation. Thanks to Fathers Susai Jesu and Alfred Groleau, and Archbishop Emeritus Sylvain Lavoie for leading us in the celebration of the Eucharist; thanks also to the staff of Star of the North for their warm and welcoming hospitality.

Invitation from Fr. Susai Jesu, OMI

On behalf of the Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples Parish, I would like to extend my kind invitation to all of you to come and join us for the blessing of the Sacred Heart Church and the thanksgiving Mass by Archbishop Richard Smith along with our neighboring priests on Sunday March 3, 2019 at 7 p.m. We are in the process of completing the church renovation of repairing walls, new hardwood for the altar, new floor and the pews. We would be honoured to have you all present to give thanks to the Lord for all the Blessings we have been receiving.

Looking forward to seeing you all!

Calling all Oblates and Associates!

You are invited to a social gathering on Thursday, March 7, 2019 from 7 to 9 pm at Star of the North Retreat House. The evening is a unique opportunity to meet the leadership of the US/Canadian Oblate provinces, who are gathered at Star of the North for their regular CROCUS meeting (Conference of the Region for Oblates of Canada and United States). Please come and share some warm Oblate hospitality as we get to know one another better and enjoy some social time.

Basic Oblate Community Reunions

Star BOC: Thursday, March 21st at 7 pm at Star of the North Retreat House.

Gareth BOC: Wednesday, March 27th at 6:30 pm at Gareth Place.

**Pilgrimage to Mexico and Our Lady of Guadeloupe**

Archbishop Emeritus Sylvain Lavoie et Fr. Susai Jesus will be the spiritual directors of this pilgrimage which will take place from November 9 to 14, 2019. Please see attached documents for more details.

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Star of the North Retreat Centre
3A St. Vital Ave. St. Albert, AB T8N 1K1

Upcoming Programs

Slow Down! Retreat Days with Sandy Prather

Feeling like you need a time out? Busy lives often leave us feeling tired, lacklustre and spiritually empty. A Slow Down Day is your opportunity to rest your body and refresh your spirit. Thursdays: March 21, April 25 9:30 to 3 pm \$40/retreat day (includes lunch)

Twilight Recovery Evening Retreats

There is a saying that one does not graduate from the program. Nor does anyone ever stop learning, growing and healing. These evenings will combine input, support group sharing and prayer. The evenings are open to anyone either in a 12 Step Program, or loving one who is, as well as anyone wanting to learn more about addictions and the recovery process. Facilitator: Sylvain L. (Free will offering) 7 pm-8:30 pm Mar 14, Apr 25, May 16, June 20

Creation Care: Challenge and Hope with Mark Polet

What does it mean to be a steward of God's creation? What did God mean for us to 'Work in the Garden'? How do we keep the Cultural Mandate? What can we do as individuals so that all can access resources sustainably? Participate in these sessions on Creation Care to hear about the hope and challenge of being a good steward, and to discuss and move forward from questions to action. Mark has been a practicing biologist for 40 years. His environmental work has taken him to nineteen countries, and he has spoken on Creation Care on three continents. Mark, along with his wife Terri, are passionate about bringing all people together to address challenging environmental issues, while acknowledging their faith, social and cultural contexts. March 6, 13 and 20th 7:30 pm \$20/session, \$55/series

Dementia Caregiver's Retreat with Patricia Gartner

How do you even begin to support someone through dementia when you don't understand what it is they are going through. You will learn about the progression of the disease, how to communicate, and what to expect as the person enters the final stages of the disease. We'll look at some things you can do to take care of yourself while caregiving your loved one. Take this time to educate yourself, to hear what others may be going through and time for rest, relaxation and self care.

7 pm Fri March 15 to 6:30 pm Sat March 16 Live in: \$135. Commute: \$90.

Sacred-Self and the Enneagram

Rooted in both spirituality and psychology, the Enneagram is a symbolic representation of nine universal principles and viewpoints through which we can encounter the human experience, including who we are as sacred reflections of the Divine. The weekend will include an introduction to the Enneagram's underlying wisdom. Facilitator: Sherry Dahl 7 pm Fri March 22 to 4 pm Sun March 24 Live-in: \$270 Commute: \$190

Please register by at least one week before program date
780-459-5511/ reception@starofthenorth.ca
See our website for more information: www.starofthenorth.ca