



## BC District

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March 6, 2019

## BC News

2019-01

### *Birthday Greetings*

Fr. Andy Takach	March 1
Fr. Terry Conway	March 8
Fr. Tap Kurudeepan	March 11
Fr. Otto Rollheiser	March 21
Fr. Jim Dukowski	March 23
Fr. Bill MacDonald	March 25
Fr. Aloys Luken	February 6
Fr. Jules Goulet	February 12
Fr. Larry Mackey	February 18



### *Anniversaries*

Bp. Adam Exner	45	Episcopal Ordination	March 12
Bro. Tom Cavanaugh	55	First Vows	March 19
Fr. Vince James	45	First Vows	March 24
Bro. Jerry Prazma	55	Perpetual Vows	February 2
Fr. Ron Rissling	45	Perpetual Vows	February 17

### **The Big 90! At My Home Away From Home**

My birthday was less than 3 weeks away, and I was still in the hospital after a long stint. Instead of going out to a party, Sister Monica suggested we have a quiet little gathering at Honoria Conway. When I approached the Head Chef, he said, "No problem. This is your home and you can invite whoever you want." That started the ball rolling, the ladies got together, Sister Pat Donovan, Kathy Stack, MaryAnn Maloney, Monica Guest and Fran Prime. In no time the table was filled with sumptuous food so artistically laid out.

The group was a phenomenal blend of ages, cultures, and health conditions as I had invited the residents of Honoria Conway as well. I was also greatly honored to have my friend, Archbishop Michael, walk across the parking lot and join the party. It was a little crowded with wheel chairs, walkers and canes but the visitors mingled so easily with the residents. I would also like to thank my Oblate confreres who turned out in great form and our Oblate staff and Associates who made it really feel like home.

To top it all off, the faithful Biljana, even broke her own record of birthday cakes. And to be sure that we would know that it was 90 years I was celebrating, my faithful friend of many years, Fran, never to be outdone, not only baked a cake, but put 90 candles on it. When she lit them all it was such a conflagration that we thought we might have to get the fire extinguisher. But, believe it or not, I was able to blow them all out!

What seemed impossible a few weeks ago was a joyful Birthday celebration. I was struck with thankfulness to God and to all the people who participated, the wonderful staff at Honoria and the many who contributed so generously with the food and the many delicacies.

In thankfulness to God and all my friends, I recited that wonderful sonnet of EE Cummings that I have cherished for years, "I thank you, God, for most this amazing day". '90' doesn't feel so bad at all, surrounded by so many friends, and such joy and happiness.

*Larry Mackey, OMI*







### **Oblate Celebration February 22** (by Karen and David Sax)

On Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> the Oblates and Oblate Associates of the BC District gathered in Vancouver at St. Augustine's Parish on the second floor to share about experiences of Oblate Associates. Fr. Jim Dukowski welcomed about two dozen of us and served as "the time keeper" while we discussed the history of OMI Associates and "the four pillars" with sharings from Mike and Jo Creedon, David and Karen Sax, Lois Hobbs, and Deacon Rennie Nahanee. "Time up" and we walked down the hall for a thanksgiving Mass commemorating the anniversary of the 1816 Approbation of the Constitution and Rules in the sun-filled oratory, where our celebrant Fr. Garry Laboucane noted its similarity to that in Aix, Provence. Joyful participants renewed vows, both vowed Oblates and Associates, closing with *Salve Regina*. Pre-prandial followed in the nearby dining area, including birthday acknowledgements. We then crossed the melting snow from the church courtyard into Pandosy Place, where a supper feast and fellowship was thoroughly enjoyed. We experienced a real sense of grace and gratitude for what God is doing among us. Thank you, St. Augustine's and Pandosy Place, for hosting us all!



## Straw Ballot for Provincial Council

All Oblates are asked to submit their choices for members of the Provincial Council. All ballots are due to the Provincial Office by **March 11, 2019**.

## Mark your calendars for these upcoming 2019 District gatherings:

Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> – Oblate House, The Crescent  
Solemnity of St. Joseph – Patron Saint of our Oblate Brothers

Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> – Pandosy Place

Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> – Oblate House, The Crescent  
In lieu of the Feast of St. Eugene de Mazenod OMI

**2018 PERSONAL INCOME TAX RETURNS** are due by **April 30<sup>th</sup>**. Medical Plan premiums and benefits and GST rebates depend on the tax return. If you need help filing, please contact Elizabeth at the office or Fr. Terry Conway, OMI.



**Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> (Saturday night)**

**Clocks go FORWARD one hour**

## Drive thru anyone?

"Honk for Ashes."



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**Vancouver church offering a drive-thru Ash Wednesday blessing**