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Sights and Sounds

May 29, 2019

For the Month of May



<u><i>Birthdays</i></u>		<u><i>First Vows</i></u>	
<i>May 16</i>	<i>Fr. Paul Fachet</i>	<i>May 21</i>	<i>Fr. Nestor Silva (43)</i>
<i>May 19</i>	<i>Br. Walter DeMong</i>	<i>May 31</i>	<i>Br. Don Claerhout (54)</i>
<i>May 26</i>	<i>George Gruber</i>	<i>May 21 - St. Eugene De Mazenod Feast Day</i>	

May Birthday Celebrations at Trinity Manor



On May 16, approximately 22 Oblates, Oblate Associates and friends gathered at Trinity Manor to celebrate the May Birthdays of Fr. Paul Fachet (May 16), Br. Walter (May 19) and Fr. George Gruber (May 25). Jadwiga once again brought the treats and her carrot cake was delicious!







A great time was had by all!!



The Good Shepherd

As we continue to celebrate Easter, the following reflection was taken from “Living with Christ” (4th Sunday of Easter). This reflection was written by Joe Gunn, Director of Centre – Oblat – A Voice for Justice. We look forward to having Joe speak at our Community Days (June 20 & 21) and he will be presenting at MAMI’s 2019 Global Oblate Fundraising meeting at Queen’s House on Tuesday, June 11.

Once, when out hiking in the forest, my wife and I lost track of our little girl. Holding our son close and shouting out our daughter’s name, we spent anxious moments frantically searching for her in the bush. Only a parent can know the relief we felt upon discovering her to be safe and sound.

Or, perhaps, could a shepherd also be familiar with such emotion? Jesus, the Good Shepherd, says “My sheep know my voice”. The first step on the road to follow Jesus is to listen. To have familiarity, even intimacy, with the voice of the Good Shepherd means to spend time listening to the Word of God.

But Jesus’ teaching on the Good Shepherd suggests more is then required of us: “I know them, and they follow me”. After listening, we must respond to the embrace of the Good Shepherd. Discerning our own specific vocation, we ask how this journey can take us yet closer to God.

Paul’s and Barnabas’ vocation was to preach the Word, even when opposed. Jesus found his own message contested and contradicted by the religious authorities; they even wanted to stone him. While it is unlikely this would happen to us today, it is always good to ask: how can I respond to the living call of the Good Shepherd through my actions this week?

~~~~~Joe Gun, Ottawa, ON~~~~~



### **Community Days – June 20 & June 21, 2019**

- Please mark your calendar for our next SDC Community Days gathering on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Registration and an Agenda will be coming out in early June.

*See you there!!*

**News from Fr. Bill Stang**

*I recently attended the NACORRC meeting in San Antonio, Texas. It was held May 11<sup>th</sup> to May 16<sup>th</sup> and it was a great conference. It was good to meet up Ron Rolheiser and Ken Thorson who are both doing very well; Ron's presentations at NARORRC were excellent. The weather in San Antonio was most co-operative and we could really enjoy the outdoors.*

*Our next Community Days are on Jun 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. I do hope that you all can come to this gathering. We will be receiving the renewal of promises of some of our Associates and Francis Maza will be making his first commitment as an Oblate Associate. The AGM meeting with the Queen's House Board will also be taking place during this time.*

*My mandate as Superior will be coming to an end in August. Please take some time to reflect on who our next Superior will be. We will take some time at our gathering to discuss this.*

*I would appreciate an up-date from all our houses in our district: Queen's House, Trinity Manor, Potter House, Central Haven, Qu'Appelle House of Prayer, St. Philip, St. Joe's and Douglas Jeffrey. I would appreciate this up-date by June 4<sup>th</sup> for my next report to Provincial Council.*

*Enjoy the summer weather,  
Fr. Bill Stang*



***Please join us for our next coffee gathering at Trinity Manor on  
Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm.***

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Queen's House News – Brendan Bitz

Sarah Donnelly, Fr. Bill Stang and Brendan Bitz recently attended the annual North American Conference of Retreat & Renewal Centers (NACORRC) held this year at the Oblate Renewal Center (ORC) in San Antonio, Texas. Fr. Ron Rolheiser omi was our featured presenter and his topic “Trying to Ground an Ethos in a Complex Time” was both inspiring and timely; we were so grateful that he was able to share his insights and wisdom with us. His presentation encouraged us to accept and properly name both today's complexities and today's tensions. We must ensure that our diagnostics are correct. Ron then led us on an exploration of our times and tensions, which led us to an examination and much discussion regarding our search for and participation in both a “Catholic” and an “Oblate” ethos of and for our retreat centers. The details that Ron shared on our participation in the charism of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate of course resonated deeply with all of us present. This gathering was a refreshing and inspiring time for all of us so fortunate to be able to attend. We want to express our appreciation and thanks to our local Oblate Community for your support for this important gathering.

Please note the following scheduled fundraising events:

- ***Oblate Scramble Golf Tournament: We are registering players, teams and sponsors for this event scheduled for Sunday, June 23 at Moon Lake Golf & Country Club. All of the key information is available on our website at:***
http://www.queenshouse.org/?page_id=7318
- ***Bike-A-Thon: Pledge collections will begin soon for our September 15th ride.***
- ***Our Gala Dinner: Scheduled for the evening of Thursday, November 21st.***

From all of us here at Queen's House ... God Bless Us All!

OMI Lacombe Canada Website: www.omilacombe.ca
Qu'Appelle House of Prayer Website: www.qhpstillness.ca
Queen's House Website at: www.queenshouse.org