



BC District

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November 15, 2019

BC News



Fr. Andrew Stendzina
Fr. Gordon Cook

November 10th
November 27th

Welcome ...

Fr. Jack Herklotz's new address is 402 Royal Avenue, New Westminster, BC V3L 1H8. He can be reached on mobile #587-341-8021 or email – jherklotz@omilacombe.ca
Fr. Jack's leaves temporarily for Alberta on Nov. 19th for his much awaited surgery and back approximately in January, 2020.

Fr. George LaGrange has moved into the Oblate House community. His mailing address is 1311 The Crescent, Vancouver, BC V6H 1T7 with phone #604-7369363 ext. 37. No change in email address – padreg@shaw.ca

Update of Contact Info:

Fr. Terry McNamara, OMI, continues to reside at St. Vincent's Langara, Rm. 215 Bed 1. Facility address is 255 West 62nd Avenue, Vancouver, BC. He can be reached on his cell #778-233-6849. His mailing address (1311 The Crescent Vancouver, BC V6H 1T7) remains unchanged.

Fr. Oscar Pauwels, OMI, enjoys his new home at Kopernik Lodge 3150 Rosemont Dr, Vancouver, BC V5S 3S9. He has no access to email and to get a hold of him on the phone, one has to dial the office phone #(604) 438-2474

Upcoming district gatherings:

Please mark your calendars for the following district gatherings for Oblates and Associates detailed below:

Tuesday, Nov. 19th at Pandosy Place

3:00pm Meeting (based on the booklet '*15 Days with St. Eugene*')
4:15 Eucharist
Social to follow
5:30 Dinner

Friday, Dec. 6th at Oblate House (The Crescent) in advance celebration of Oblate Feast Day - Dec. 8th.

3:30pm Eucharist
Social to follow
5:30 Dinner

Oblate Retreat 2019



We had another great retreat at the Carmelite Centre. We certainly missed our brothers who could not attend, and we also prayed for them. The Director, Father Richard Sudlick, OMI from the USA Province did an excellent presentation on the Beatitudes, and at each Mass he also shared some profound insights regarding the Lord's Prayer. I continue to enjoy his reflections. That Thursday, we all went to the Oblate Cemetery, as is customary, to visit our Faithful Departed, to pray for them, and to sing the Salve Regina. Father Richard was quite taken with our Prayer Service there and intends to share that with the Oblates in his Province. The weather was superb, and we have decided that our retreat would be in the same place always the week before Thanksgiving. The weather is more likely to be amenable at that time. I would like to thank Father Ken Thorson, OMI for recommending Father Richard several years ago. Good choice! And, Father Richard has other topics for retreats as the Constitutions and Rules. I would welcome him back anytime!

With gratitude for all who made the Retreat happen,

Father Garry LaBoucane, OMI

A message from Fr. Ron Rissling, OMI

"After consulting my doctor, in consultation with our local Provincial and Council and OMI Lacombe in Ottawa, due to failed back surgery, delayed 2nd knee surgery, inoperable torn shoulder rotator cuffs which won't fully heal and general tiredness, I have retired from ministry at George Derby with the Archdiocese taking over their Sunday Mass. It is confirmed that I continue living at my present address for the time being. My knee surgery is on hold as I am told a 2nd replacement on the same knee requires two surgeons and the assistant surgeon broke his wrist. I am to phone in at the beginning of Nov. for an update! I get around with the assistance of both a back and knee brace. Once the knee is operated on and rehabbed I hope to help out at funeral homes with Catholics who don't have a parish priest-perhaps I can do some good with these folks who feel left out of our Church. I will also look at volunteering

one day at a New West soup kitchen with street people and look for "lost Catholics". I ask for prayers for successful knee surgery, hopefully before Christmas!"

A summer of travels (by Elizabeth Tolentino)

How time has slipped by so fast again! Fall will soon be over and winter is not distant yet here I am sharing my summer travels. It's the desire in me to share the Oblate hospitality I experienced during my trips.

Installation of the Provincial and Council

August 15, 2019 Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples, Edmonton, AB

Together with Oblate Associates Mike and Jo Creedon, we drove our way to Edmonton and witnessed this beautiful ceremony. The church was beautiful! It was adorned with art work from the First Peoples. It was befitting that a ceremony like this was held here. Having attended the installation six years ago in St. Albert, it was such a wonderful feeling to witness anew the acceptance of the new leadership team to serve the province. The parishioners of Sacred Heart hosted a wonderful reception after mass.



Oblate Missions in Prince George and Fort St. James, BC
August 16 & 17, 2019

On our way back from Edmonton, we did a couple of side trips to visit Fathers Gilbert Bertrand and Frank Salmon. Thank you to both of them for being great hosts.



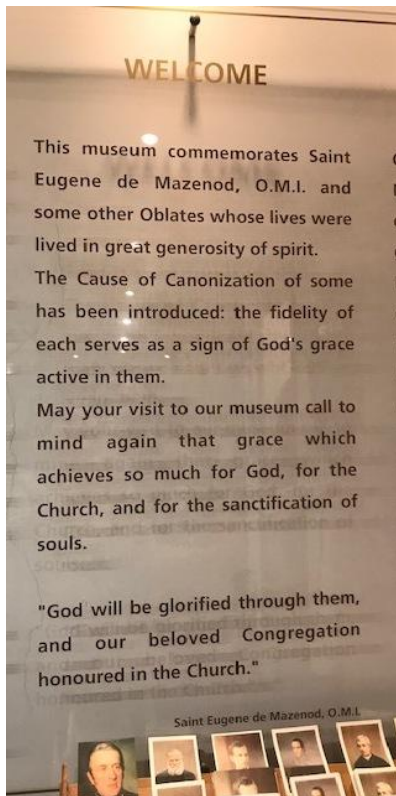
This huge framed artwork of Our Lady of the Snows was painted by Bro. Jerry Prazma. It stands at the foyer of Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Fort St. James, B.C.



Visit to Casa Generalizia in the Eternal City (Rome, Italy)
September 21, 2019

He figured I was going to get lost on my way to the place, Fr. Warren Brown suggested I take the cab. I must admit that I was too confident that my sisters and I were going to find the place by bus and sure enough – we found ourselves walking under an overpass where cars passed by in top speed. We made it to the house way past lunch hour where Fr. Brown waited patiently for us. One would imagine the size of the servings we each had not being used to the late meals which was customary in Italy. Fr. Brown gave all of us a good tour of the house, its grounds, the rooftop overlooking the Vatican City and the museum. What a collection of Oblate memorabilia! I was in awe seeing the Oblate Madonna, so beautiful at the centre of the main chapel. We also met a few Oblates and staff there. We weren't lucky enough to see the Superior General but met Vicar General Paolo Archiati coming back from his afternoon stroll. A big shout out to Fr. Brown for taking time off from his busy week of meetings to exemplify topnotch Oblate hospitality.





The coat worn by St. Eugene de Mazenod at the time the photo of him was taken (framed in the background).