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Sights and Sounds

July 21, 2020

For the Month of July



<u>Birthdays</u>

July 7	Darcie Lich
July 12	Fr. Tony Schmidt
July 20	Fr. Richard Doll
July 24	Fr. Wendelin Rolheiser
Iulu 24	Fr. Bill Stana



<u>Ordination</u>

July 8	Fr. Ken Forster (48)
	Wedding Anniversary
July 21	Lynn & Aileen Ryan (41)
July 24	Gerry & Lori Weinkauf (49)
July 25	Mark & Darcie Lich (22)

Dear Brother Oblates and Associates,

I sincerely hope that all of you are well and that this virus has not affected you and your families.

I am now living at Trinity Manor and am slowly getting adjusted to this style of living. I find the aloneness very difficult, but I will be fine.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Darcie Lich for the time she gave us as an animator along with Fr. Mike for our Potter House

BOC. Thank you so much Darcie, for your contribution and I pray that now you will not be so busy with your daily work.

I also thank Fr. Mike Dechant for his work as an animator and thank him for leaving his name stand for the next few years. I also thank Gerry Weinkauf for saying "yes" as an animator.

> God's blessings to you all!! Fr. Bill



Eucharist Celebrated in a Bubble

In these extraordinarily turbulent times world-wide, here at Trinity Manor at Stonebridge (TMAS) in Saskatoon, from March 16th until June 28th, 2020, the customary daily Eucharist Celebration (Mass) was put on hold. What a stark contrast that was to the previous five and a half years since TMAS opened in Autumn, 2014. Throughout that period (except for Good Friday) not a single day went by without the celebration of Mass in the TMAS Chapel. Thus, during these past three



and a half months, one or another resident would approach me with the same nagging question: "When are we going to have Mass again?" And usually what the requester really meant was "When will we finally be able to receive Communion?"

So, the pressure was on for us to resume Mass again. That pressure came not only from within the resident community. The Administration of TMAS, however, kept insisting on keeping us seniors, especially the most vulnerable, safe from the Covid-19 virus. Consequently, the start-up date for Mass kept getting postponed.

Finally, the Liturgy Committee of TMAS was given the green light and we proceeded in three phases:

- 1. The seating in the Chapel and multi-purpose room was reduced drastically: in the Chapel, from approximately 70 cloth-covered chairs down to 14 blue vinyl arm chairs set two meters apart; and in the multi-purpose room, from about 40 chairs down to 8. The Chapel was ready in early June.
- 2. Starting on June 11 and for the next two weeks, a brief prayer service open to all residents was offered. The theme of the inter-denominational service was "our common theme" commemorating the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation Lauda to Si on the environment. The second phase gave all 200+ residents living in the 14 hallways of TMAS a chance to experience in turn the new Chapel atmosphere and arrangement. Before entering, each one had to register, sanitize their hands and put on a face mask to be worn while being in the Chapel.
- 3. Finally, on Sunday, June 28, the first Eucharist was celebrated with communion being given within the celebration. Since then, every week each resident is welcome to participate fully including Communion in one pre-designated Eucharist. The weekly schedule is as follows:

Sundays: Hallway Group B - 2^{nd} & 3^{rd} Floors (Presider & +Gerry)Mondays: Hallway Group C 2^{nd} & 3^{rd} Floors (Presider & Fr. Albert)Tuesdays: Hallway Group E 2^{nd} Floor (Presider & Fr. Wendelin)Wednesdays: Hallway Group E 1^{st} & 3^{rd} Floors (Presider & Fr. Albert)Thursdays: Hallway Group D 2^{nd} & 3^{rd} Floors (Presider & Fr. Albert)

Fridays: Hallway Group A 1st, 2nd & 3rd Floors (Presider & Fr. Eugene) Saturdays: Hallway Group B-1st Floor and Group C-1st Floor (Frs. Richard and Bill).

And this will continue until Covid-19 Pandemic ends – when?? Your guess is as good as mine!

Submitted by Fr. Paul Fachet, OMI

Birthday Celebration

We wanted to make sure Fr. Bill knew we remembered his birthday was coming July 24, 2020. So, a small number of Queen's House staff gathered to celebrate...



And sang Happy Birthday to this special fella!!



Saskatchewan District Office:



During July, August and September, with Covid-19 as it is, Corrine and Rita will be taking vacation days here and there throughout these months. We will send out a notice whenever we will be away from the office.



Treasurer's Office:

• If you haven't sent in your 2nd Quarter Reports yet, please do so as soon as possible. Also, please include your GST Receipts for remittance.

> Thank you, Corrine Pambrun and Fr. Paul Fachet

Recent Oblate Moves:



Fr. Bill Stang: (Trinity Manor) #C-1103 331 Cornish Road Saskatoon, SK S7T 0T9 Phone: 306-979-8314 Fr. Joe Jacek: (St. Ann's) #106-2902 Louise Street, Saskatoon, SK S7J 3M2 Phone: 306-229-5338 Fr. Ken Forster: (St. Philip Neri Parish) 1902 Munroe Avenue S. Saskatoon, SK S7J 1R8 Phone: 306-715-5064

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### Potter House BOC Zoom Meeting – June 30, 2020



The Potter's House BOC met on Tuesday, June 30 by Zoom. Renaming our BOC was on the agenda, but we didn't get around to it!

There were 15 of us who attended the meeting: Chris and Brad Taylor, Gerry Weinkauf, Darcie Lich, Paula Fournier, Mike Dechant, Francis Maza, Glenn Zimmer, Jim and Adele Longstaff, Bill Stang, Joe Jacek, Ken Forster and JoAnne Chrones. Despite what appears in some of the backgrounds, Ken and Mike are not lounging on a beach in the tropics, and Francis is not in San Francisco!!

We had a loose agenda: We each shared our situation over the last few months and how it has affected our ministry or work, our spirituality, our relationships, families, communities. We also shared some of the blessings and hardships of being "locked down". Some of us are attending the Ron Rolheiser retreat which will be offered through Queen's House next week. We decided we will meet as a BOC, through Zoom, after each session to share and discuss the presentation.

We also had some updates from members of the SDC Leadership Team on St. Mary's Residence, Potters House, and some personnel updates.

We ask for prayers for Sandy and Paula who will be undergoing surgery soon.

Our BOC will meet again by Zoom on July 23.

#### Submitted by JoAnne Chrones

#### Share in Reflections about our Church and our Culture

Fr. Nestor Gregoire, OMI, will share a weekly reflection on faith, life, Church and culture. Join in this reflection. Fr. Nestor has spent most of his ministry within parish communities and served for ten years as the editor of the "Our Family" magazine. https://withmyfeetonmydesk.blogspot.com

#### Submitted by Fr. Nestor Gregoire

#### Visiting our Oblates at Special Care Homes:

- *Central Haven*: Fr. Kedl and Fr. Ron would love to have a visit with you. Please call (306)844-4040 to arrange an outdoor visit with them. Please book your outdoor visit in advance by at least 24 hours which gives the staff at Central Haven the time to organize these visits.
- *Samaritan Place*: Sr. Anne Lewans and Bonnie Roberts are the two designates for support persons for indoor visits with Fr. Syl. If you would like to arrange for a fence visit in the garden or courtyard, please e-mail the Life Enhancement Guides at leguide@samaritanplace.ca to make these arrangements. (Attention: Sandy on Park, Alfrenz on Prairie, and Jamie in the Cottages as applicable).

#### Submitted by Corrine & Rita

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Our efforts to update most elements of our IT infrastructure and computer systems certainly paid dividends as we hosted our Summer Stillness retreat with Ron Rolheiser from July 6<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> using the virtual medium of Zoom to present this long standing summer staple of Queen's House programming. And thank goodness that we were able to keep Ron's streak of 32 plus years alive – a remarkable effort no matter how you look at it. This effort speaks to the teamwork at play surrounding Oblate retreat ministry that was able to attract and engage well over 300 participants from around the world – an important sign of how the gospel message shared by a capable and talented Oblate theologian and supported by our indefatigable Oblate charism can generate a great deal of hope and energy within our community.

Allow me to share with you our thank you at the conclusion of this retreat to express our gratitude and appreciation for all the parts that were at play in this effort. Thank you for the technology that gives us the tools that allow our community to gather and the talent and skill of the individuals who make this all possible. May we bless them. Thank you to our team here at QH: To Martha – who shares her experience and skill so freely and generously from all the other walks of her life. To Corrine – who manages and juggles 101 things in the background to keep us all on the right track. To Sr. Ludvina – who helps Dave hold down the fort when the rest of us have left for the day. To Dave – who is a catalogue issued guardian angel for all of us and who can troubleshoot our tech issues faster than the speed of light. To Lynden – working constantly to keep our facility fully functioning and our grounds beautiful, neat, and clean. To our staff – hunkered down at home to protect themselves and their families until we can resurface to serve again as best we can. To our Board – several of whom are fully participating in this retreat and indeed are the very essence of encouragement and support. To the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the order under whose charism Queen's House operates, and their Associates - several of whom are here as participants. To JoAnne Chrones – who works with Fr. Ron and has been incredibly helpful to us once again in getting the word out to the world about this offering. And to Sarah – for your leadership and dedication to retreat ministry, to Queen's House, to faith building, to community, to individuals, to everyone. Your courage to step into this has been terrific! We thought we'd dip our toe into the water – Sarah helped us

hop into the deep end. We sputtered a bit, but no one drowned! Much easier for the rest of us to scurry around behind the scenes than to be front and center like you were. Well done Sarah – we are most grateful.

To each of you as participants, as community, as the very fabric of our society. Thank you for rolling the dice and taking a chance on this. Your willingness to dial in say much about you that is very good – and it says much about God who we can't see, but somehow, we might know. God loves us – he has given us each other. You have been a truly wonderful gang to share this all with.

And thank you Fr. Ron – you are truly ambidextrous in that you can shoot with either hand – and in these parts of the frozen north where hockey is king – that is a high compliment but is so very apt. You are effective in front of a crowd and a camera. Your genius is to know deeply and to share clearly. You pull us relentlessly toward our God and push us to an ever deeper conversion. You are a wonderful sign that God loves us and that God cares deeply for us. You are a blessing upon us in a wonderful and delightful way. So, thank you Ron for your dedication to God, to community, to each of us, to the world. You grace us! We are graced!

> God bless you and keep you safe and healthy until we meet again. Brendan Bitz, Director of Queen's House



Fr. Nestor Gregoire's blog: <u>https://withmyfeetonmydesk.blogspot.com</u> Meadow Lake Website: <u>https://www.meadowlakecatholicchurch.com</u> OMI Lacombe Canada Website: <u>www.omilacombe.ca</u> Qu'Appelle House of Prayer Website: <u>www.qhpstillness.ca</u> Qu'Appelle House of Prayer blog: <u>https://qhpconnection.blogspot.com/</u> Queen's House Website at: <u>www.queenshouse.org</u> St. Philip Neri Parish at: <u>www.st.philipneriparish.ca</u>

Updated June 22, 2020