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# *Sights and Sounds*

May 27, 2021

*For the Month of May*



## *Birthdays*

May 16 Fr. Paul Fachet  
May 19 Br. Walter De Mong  
May 26 Fr. George Gruber



## *First Vows*

May 21 Fr. Nestor Silva (45)



## *May, the Month of Mary*

*Mary, my dearest Mother, give me your  
Heart so beautiful, so pure, so immaculate,  
Your heart so full of love and humility, that I  
May be able to receive Jesus in the Bread of  
Life, love Him as you loved Him and serve  
Him in the distressing disguise of the  
Poorest of poor.*

*~Mother Teresa~*

# Fr. Paul Fachet turned 80!!! COVID Style

On Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, a “Drive-by Parade” took place at Queen’s House in celebration of Fr. Paul Fachet turning 80 years young.



Fr. Paul Fachet



Darcie & Mark Lich



Fr. Mike Dechant, Fr. Bill Stang, Fr. Paul Fachet  
Br. Walter De Mong, Fr. Joe Jacek





**Brent Longstaff, Adele & Jim Longstaff**



**Blain Young**



**Pat & Donna Rogal**



**Fr. Ken Forster**





**Kathy & Ivan Hitchings**



**Brian Zimmer & JoAnne Chrones**



**Jean Cochrane, Jadwiga Cwik**



**Fr. Joe Jacek**



**Alice & Lynden Zimmer, Fr. Paul**



**Pauline Henry, Corrine Pambrun, Fr. Paul Fachet  
Rita McKaig, Elaine Burton**



**Pauline Henry, Fr. Paul, Blain Young**





### **Qu'Appelle House of Prayer – Message**

After re-reading the last report to Bill earlier this year, I realize not much has changed at the House of Prayer since then. Day after day it is one day like the other, with very little change in routine. That is how it is for most people, of course. That is hard at times to live – there is a constant heaviness and uncertainty.



That being said, Chantelle and I couldn't be more grateful to be here in this time at this time. Where better? It feels both safe and nurturing. We daily meet at 10:00 for prayer or mass. Even with fewer guests, the workload is constant. Spring as always brings a big change to what needs doing – large garden and yard, extensive flower beds and outdoor plants, finding creative ways of deer protection, watching for ticks! Zoom meetings and other on-line appointments have increased a lot – sometimes every day.

We continue to receive guests – from time to time, and well spaced. We've had only one long-term person so far this year (two weeks). When there are overnight guests here, there would usually be 3 – 4 persons, and that's in addition to the 5 or 6 who come here for mass. Last weekend we did have 7 people here for varying lengths of time but will not receive anyone until next week. The majority who now come here are for the first time (5 out of 7 recently). Kathy and Tim from Winnipeg have not been able to return since January because of COVID; plans and hopes are that they would resume being here 2 weeks of every month beginning late June or July.

An especially sacred and memorable recent time has been the second anniversary of the death of Margaret – April 24. 15 persons gathered for a memorial Eucharist. An update was put into our blog to mark this time <https://qhpconnection.blogspot.com/>. Her spirit continues to permeate this space, perhaps as much, maybe even more, than when she was alive.

*Reported by Glenn along with Chantelle  
4/28/21*

***A Message from Fr. Doug Jeffrey – (Meadow Lake, Green Lake and Waterhen Lake)***

Since Bishop Albert had submitted his resignation in November we have been waiting for news of a new bishop. On March 25, it was announced that Stephen Hero, the current Rector of St. Joseph Seminary is the Bishop Elect. He will be ordained Bishop on June 11 at Sacred Heart Cathedral. He has been a priest of the Edmonton Archdiocese and is in his early 50s.



We had people in our Churches for Easter - Waterhen Lake had a Good Friday celebration for the first time in a number of years because some of our Lay Leaders from Meadow Lake provided leadership for the Good Friday liturgy here at Our Lady of Peace...I celebrated 10 liturgies from Thursday to Sunday evening and travelled over 600 Kilometres...I must say I was tired on Sunday night....this is pushing my limits and abilities. The liturgies went well and the folks were happy.

Just before Easter the Diocese asked permission to put a Facebook link to our Easter Vigil...people across the diocese were able to tune into the Vigil...we received many positive comments about the quality of the live streaming and the Church decorations and the Liturgy - our new audio and video equipment is in place and seems to be working well...while we spent a lot of money on it - the equipment is doing what we had hoped..

Our numbers of Covid-19 (Far Northwest) had fallen quite low after a time of being the worst in Sask but now they are rising again - I got my shot in early April (Moderna) and I am now waiting for the second shot...activities are limited here as we try to keep people safe...**We have 3 kids for confirmation/first communion this year as people were nervous...the three are wonderful...the celebration should take place in early June..**

I am involved in the Evangelization/Catechesis Commission...we are studying the new Directory for Catechesis - It is a wonderful document and full of good stuff!

If you are watching the news there is an abundance of violence here in Meadow Lake...much of it unfolds here in the area of the Church...I do what I can to befriend my neighbours - those who pass through the Church yard but gangs and drugs are the norm and I have no idea how to help deal with those issues...my garage was broken into - items stolen. Our buildings get tagged with gang symbols...first one gang and then the other...we clean up and wait until the next time...our parking lot is a place for drug deals...the RCMP suggested that we install cameras and register them with the RCMP...it is an expensive venture and our income is not the greatest right now...our budget looks to have a small deficit if everything goes well...if not...the deficit will be larger.

**A Message from Fr. Moe Schroeder –(Battleford)**

I am well but very confined in my apartment by the COVID rules. The Mosquito Interpretive Center is in (slow) process of going ahead, (obviously as is everything else), but they want me to be ready for presentations in the concept of Dialogue on Christianity, its historic role in the West, the relations and response of First nations, etc. So, I'm working on that preparing study groups and workshops. The work of Achiel Peelman, OMI is especially useful in that, as well as Raymond Huel's "Proclaiming the Gospel to the Indians and Mètis." It's interesting stuff.



**Report from Fr. Heinner Paucar -(Pelican Narrows / Sandy Bay)**

Hello brothers, hope all of you are keeping well. Since this health crisis began our lives move according to the health situation across our country. The third wave is now conditioning our plans and our future, especially the pastoral area.

Thank God I am still keeping well, my health is going well, just during the last 3 weeks I have been experiencing a simple flu in my body but with some personal care I could get over it. I try every day to be in touch with the local people here through phone calls or in our daily masses with the intention to handle in a good way my mental health, which at this point is affecting everybody in these two communities. Women are more vulnerable to this disease; with the help of the Archdiocese, we are assisting some people to get help from the Northern region.



The Diocese has regular meetings with the priests every month, to share our life and experiences during this pandemic time. It works very well.

During this new season we are experiencing less cases of COVID. It is more than 3 weeks with 0 cases in the community of Pelican and just a few in Sandy Bay. This new time is giving the people some relief in their life after a tough time in both communities with the death of 13 elders by COVID-19. Through the Health Centre, we are coordinating a celebration of healing and providing support to the people who have lost their relatives.

At the same time the local authority is allowing us to have Masses with 30 people inside the church, before only 10 people were allowed. The same with baptisms. We hope to have better times ahead, we hope as well to get all the communities vaccinated before summertime.

*Prayers for all of you  
Fraternally,  
Heinner, OMI*





## *Remembering...*

*Oblate Associate, Deacon Ghislain (Gil) Bellavance of Battleford, Saskatchewan who passed away on May 14, 2021 at the age of 85. Gil is survived by two of his three children: son Charles of Prongua, SK (with three grandchildren and 4 grandchildren) and daughter Anne Marie (Andrew) of North Battleford (with 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren), 2 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren from his son Mark who predeceased him in March 2021. Gil is also survived by one sister in Perdue, Sk. He is predeceased by his father, Joseph Bellavance (Delmas, SK) and his mother, Marie Therese, originally from Belgium. May he rest in God's peace.*

### *An anecdote from Fr. Moe Schroeder as told to him by Gil-*

*"The family name of their ancestors who came from France to Quebec in the 1600s was Gagne. Early on in the history, a Gagne ancestor was involved in a battle in Quebec and led his troops out of danger by a brilliant advance of his troops, and was therefore called by a nickname, Bellavance (une belle avance) and the name became Gagne dit Bellavance. It was later in Western Canada shortened to Bellavance".*

### *Words of remembrance – Dan & Jan Lamoureux*

*"An older man would've found that tough"---*

*Let me tell you a story about "Mon Grand Frere". Mon Grand Frere was the name my wife Janice and I affectionately called Deacon Gil Bellavance, our long time friend and partner in First Nations Ministry south of the Battle river.*

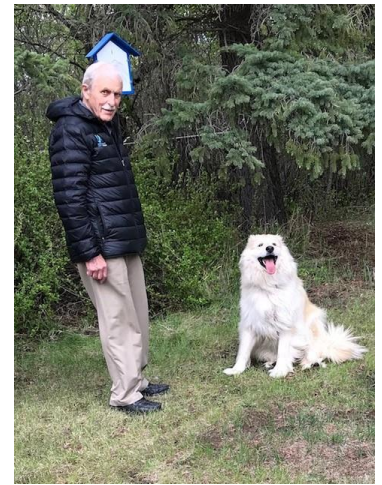
*One afternoon, on a bitterly cold, wet and windy day, Mon Grand Frere and I were on the Red Pheasant Indian reserve for a funeral service and committal. We had completed the service and proceeded to the cemetery for the committal.*

*Now when I say that it was bitterly cold, I don't think I am giving this, seep into your bones, make your ears droop kinda chill, enough credit. I mean it was COLD! Anyways, we finished the very long committal ceremony and made our way back to Gil's little white Ford Ranger. When we got into the truck Gil looked at me with his signature wry smile and said and I quote. "An older man would've found that tough." Well, I laughed all the way back to North Battleford. Indeed, an older man would have found that tough. A younger man too, but after all Gil was only 83 at the time.*

*We have hundreds of stories, and thousands of memories, but I share this one. It makes me happy. Heroes don't come along very often, they are as rare as they are*

*special, but my wife and I know one. Gil was ordained Deacon on June 24, 2015 Saint John the Baptist Feast Day. I was ordained July 14, 2017 Saint Kateri Feast Day. We went through Deacon Formation together and were assigned to First Nations Ministry south of the Battle river to serve on Red Pheasant, Mosquito, Sweetgrass, and Poundmaker Reserves for the Prince Albert Diocese since Gil's ordination. His name is Deacon (Col Ret) Ghislain Joseph Bellavance, he is and always will be, Our Brother, Our Friend, Our "Mon Grand Frere."*

*Toujours l'amours - Dcn Dan and Janice Lamoureux*



Gil & Caper

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**Saskatchewan District Office:**

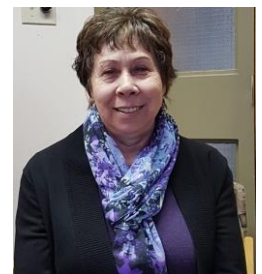


*Hello Everyone!*

*The Month of May is almost at an end and as we continue to follow the protocol regarding Covid-19, our office remains busy with everyday business and we are grateful that our Oblate family remains healthy.*

*Please continue to send in your 2021 GST receipts to the SDC Office. Always know that Rita and Corrine are just a phone call away if you need anything*

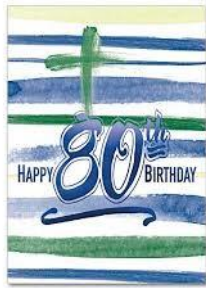
*Love and prayers,  
Corrine & Rita*





### Queen's House News –

***On May 16<sup>th</sup> Father Paul Facht, the Centering Prayer facilitator turned 80!***



Several people who are members of the larger Queen's House Community indicated they wish to honour Father Paul's milestone birthday by supporting Queen's House Retreat & Renewal Centre.

The donations raised will be used to enhance the technology required for programs including Centering Prayer. Our goal is to purchase supportive technology including microphones and headphones that will assist presenters, the tech team and leaders like Father Paul in our efforts to connect to and further support our Queen's House Community.

If this is a gesture you would like to make, please follow the link below. Thank- you for celebrating Father Paul Facht's Oblate Ministry.

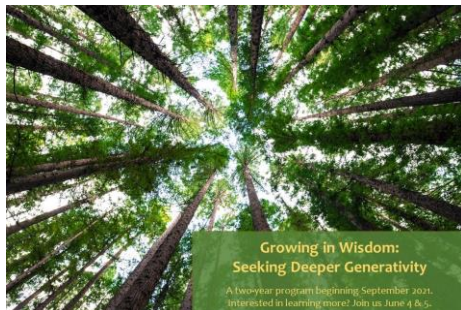
<http://weblink.donorperfect.com/frpaul80>

### **Synod on the Amazon – One Year Later, Part III**

Our Queen's House Team is again pleased to host the third of a three-part virtual series entitled "Synod on the Amazon – One Year Later" scheduled for **Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 6:30 pm. The Presentation Panel includes Heather Peters, Randy Klassen, Deacon Rennie Nahanee, Sr. Damien Marie Savino FSN & Cardinal Michael Czerny. This series has been a combined effort involving STM, our Saskatoon Diocese, Centre Oblat, Muskeg Lake Cree Nation and Queen's House. For further information and to register, please click on this link:

[Our Programs | Queen's House \(queenshouse.org\)](http://queenshouse.org)

## **Growing in Wisdom: Seeking Deeper Generativity**



TWO YEARS OF LEARNING AND EXPLORING FOR THOSE SEEKING A SPIRITUALITY FOR THEIR WISDOM YEARS

An ecumenically-based program to those 60+ who are seeking to explore and deepen their own spirituality as they age. **“Growing in Wisdom: Seeking Deeper Generativity”** is a two-year program – primarily offered

online – beginning in September 2021. This program anticipates and welcomes participants from across Canada, and is co-sponsored by several Canadian retreat centres, with leadership from Queen’s House. A two-day “Come and See” program will be offered on Zoom June 4-5, to share with potential participants the basic outline of **“Growing in Wisdom,”** hear from some of our instructors, meet each other, and offer an opportunity to discern if this two-year commitment might be of interest and helpful. Cost for June 4-5: \$25. To register please visit the Queen’s House website:

[https://qh.retreatportal.com/events/f?p=101:2:7028937769662:::PROGRAM\\_ID:10272](https://qh.retreatportal.com/events/f?p=101:2:7028937769662:::PROGRAM_ID:10272)

or call Sarah Donnelly for assistance in registering: 306-242-1916 x226.

**“Growing in Wisdom: Seeking Deeper Generativity”** is based on a program called “Forest Dwelling: Spirituality for our Wisdom Years” – a two-year program developed by Fr. Ron Rolheiser OMI and the faculty of the Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio TX: <https://ost.edu/forestdwelling/>. This new venture is enthusiastically supported by Fr. Ron Rolheiser and the Forest Dwelling faculty, and they will be offering live presentations to the **“Growing in Wisdom”** program over the next two years.

**“Growing in Wisdom: Seeking Deeper Generativity”** will be offered in four intensives. The first will take place September 15-18, 2021. Dates are still being confirmed, but anticipated dates for the remaining intensives would take place February 2022, September 2022 and February 2023. All of these intensives would be offered online, with possible in-person gatherings at various retreat centres across Canada.

In addition to these four online gatherings, participants will be invited to participate in “Elder Circles” – meeting on zoom with 8-10 other participants once a month for 2 hours. Each Elder Circle will be facilitated by a graduate of the Forest Dwelling program, who will



be skilled in group facilitation. While many topics might be discussed in these monthly gatherings, the primary focus would be to create and maintain a supportive and caring community for each participant as they journey through this program.

For further information please contact Nancy Phillips, Program Coordinator: 204-470-9437; [dnphil@mymts.net](mailto:dnphil@mymts.net) or Sarah Donnelly, Program Director at Queen's House: 306-242-1916x226; [programming@queenshouse.org](mailto:programming@queenshouse.org)



***Fr. Nestor Gregoire's blog: <https://withmyfeetonmydesk.blogspot.com>***

***Meadow Lake Website: <https://www.meadowlakecatholicchurch.com>***

***OMI Lacombe Canada Website: [www.omilacombe.ca](http://www.omilacombe.ca)***

***Qu'Appelle House of Prayer Website: [www.qhpstillness.ca](http://www.qhpstillness.ca)***

***Qu'Appelle House of Prayer blog: <https://qhpconnection.blogspot.com/>***

***Queen's House Website at: [www.queenshouse.org](http://www.queenshouse.org)***

***St. Philip Neri Parish at: [www.stphilipneriparish.ca](http://www.stphilipneriparish.ca)***