



Saskatchewan District Community
601 Taylor Street W, Saskatoon, SK S7M 0C9
Phone: (306) 653-6454 Fax: (306) 652-1133
E-mail: slcsec@sasktel.net

Sights and Sounds

March 16, 2022

For the Month of March



Birthdays

March 20 Bernard Normand
March 23 Fr. Ken Forster
March 29 Fr. Eugene Warnke



First Vows

March 19 Br. Walter De Mong (65)

Perpetual Vows

March 19 Br. Walter De Mong (59)



Dear Oblates & Associates,

It has been a long time that this pandemic has been with us. I am hoping that you are all well and able to be with each other.

Thank you, Brother Oblates for giving us a brief story of where you are at now in your Ministry and thank you to our Oblate Associates for your support.

It is time that we planned a gathering where we can be together for some fun...that has been missing.

Take care and may God bless you all!!

Fr. Bill Stang, OMI

FEAST DAY – FEBRUARY 17, 2022



Feast Day began with prayer in the chapel led by Fr. Mike Dechant. This was followed by the Oblates renewing their Vows and the Oblate Associates renewing their Commitments.

Sandy Normand signing her Second One-Year Commitment as an Oblate Associate with Fr. Bill Stang and Fr. Mike Dechant.



Bernard Normand signing his Second One-Year Commitment As an Oblate Associate with Fr. Mike Dechant and Fr. Bill Stang.





Oblate Associates Mark Lich, Corrine Pambrun, Gerry Weinkauf, Jim & Adele Longstaff renewing their Commitments with Fr. Mike Dechant.

Gerry Weinkauf, Lynden & Alice Zimmer





Oblate Associates Mark Lich, Corrine Pambrun, Gerry Weinkauf, Jim Longstaff, Adele Longstaff with Fr. Mike Dechant.

Front Row: Darcy Lich, Fr. Joe Jacek, Corrine Pambrun, Fr. Wendelin Rolheiser, Adele Longstaff, Sandy Normand.

Back Row: Mark Lich, Fr. Ken Forster, Gerry Weinkauf, Fr. Bill Stang, Fr. Mike Dechant, Bernard Normand, Jim Longstaff, Fr. Glenn Zimmer.



Following the renewals, the Oblates and Oblate Associates made their way to the dining room to enjoy snacks, refreshments and most of all, some “good ol’ visiting”



Fr. Anthony Schmidt, OMI
July 12, 1928 – February 1, 2022



The death of Fr. Anthony (Tony) Schmidt, OMI, occurred at his home at Trinity Manor, in Saskatoon in the early morning hours on February 1, 2022. Fr. Tony was born in Allan, SK, on July 12, 1928, to Magdalena (Fischer) and Joseph Schmidt, the seventh of twelve children. After attending primary school in Allan, Fr. Tony went to St. Thomas College, in North Battleford, SK, and in 1945, entered the novitiate of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, at St. Charles, MB. He pronounced his First Vows on August 15, 1946. His scholasticate formation was at St. Charles, in Battleford, SK. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 11, 1954.

For many years, Fr. Tony was a teacher of all areas of mathematics, at St. Thomas College, and schools in Alberta. While he was teaching, Fr. Tony always made himself available to assist in parish ministry. Fr. Tony also served in Oblate community ministries: as the Director of the Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate (MAMI) and the Oblate University Student Residence in Saskatoon. Beginning in 1970, Fr. Tony began ministry as parish priest, serving in many communities in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. Though he was often assigned to 2 or 3 parishes at a time, he was involved in Oblate community roles as well, serving as district superior in several locations, and on many committees with Oblate and diocesan organizations.

Fr. Tony loved sports and was known to give a shorter homily at weekend liturgies if the Riders were playing, or if the Stanley Cup was on. He was a great storyteller and was happy around the tables of parishioners sharing a meal and good humour. Fr. Tony's sister Mary remembers being raised in a very spiritual and religious household. His family was very proud of Fr. Tony's priesthood, and his commitment to his faith was a source of nourishment to all of them. They remember him as being very thoughtful and caring. He loved spending time with his brothers and sisters and their families, who would frequently visit him in the parishes where he was serving. His nieces and nephews considered themselves fortunate to be able to go skiing and fishing with their Uncle Tony and were grateful that he was always there for them, celebrating their marriages, and

saying their family goodbyes.

Fr. Tony retired from active church ministry to St. Mary's Residence in Battleford, SK, in 2003. However, his ministry within his Oblate community remained very significant. He was the Director of the Oblate residence in Battleford from 2003 to 2010. Fr. Tony was well known for his organizational skills and attention to detail. He would gently, with a chuckle, point out any errors he may have noticed in the Oblate communications. He became very computer literate as an elder. After he moved to Trinity Manor in October, 2014, the Oblate community became very reliant on him as their "messenger". Not all the members at Trinity had computers, and Fr. Tony faithfully printed out each communique and made sure everyone kept well informed about community news. His care and ministry to his brothers was greatly missed when he became unable to provide this service anymore.

Fr. Tony is survived by the members of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, OMI Lacombe Province, his siblings, Mary, Magdalena, and John, and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, Magdalena and Joseph, and his siblings Joseph, Adam, Eva, Elizabeth, George, Helen, Ernest and Genevieve.

The funeral for Fr. Tony will be held on Friday, February 25, 2022, at 10:00 am, at St. Philip Neri Parish, 1902 Monroe Avenue South, Saskatoon, SK. The service will be live streamed and can be accessed by the link at:

www.stphilipneriparish.ca. The interment will take place following the funeral service at the Oblate cemetery in Battleford, SK. Arrangements are entrusted to Saskatoon Funeral Home.



CELEBRATION OF *Life*



***Fr. Tony Schmidt's Celebration of Life was
presided by Fr. Bill Stang, OMI***

***Fr. Mike Dechant, OMI was the
Homilist.***



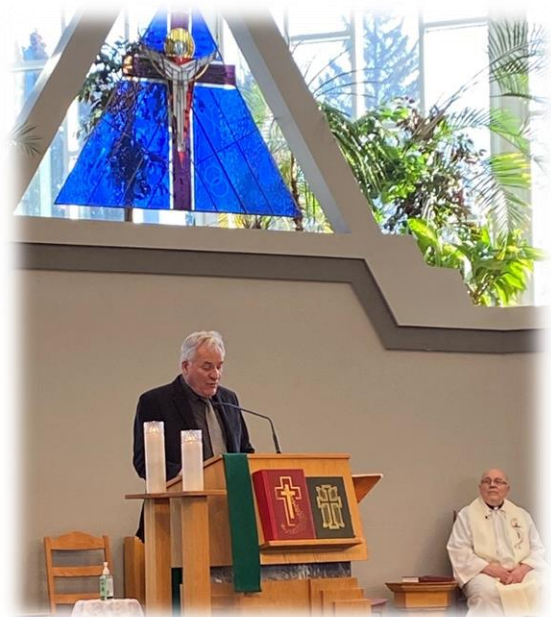
Words of Remembrance...



Oblate Associates, Corrine Pambrun and Pauline Henry remembered Fr. Tony with stories of his life's work among his Oblate Family.



The First Reading was read by Brendan Bitz, Director of Queens House.





Fr. Tony's Oblate Family

***Br. Don Claerhout,
Fr. Nestor Silva***



***Fr. Tony's family displayed
a table with so many of
Fr. Tony's treasured items.
It was beautiful.***





Fr. Sylvester Lewans, OMI



Fr. Anthony Schmidt, OMI



Fr. Ken Forster, Pauline Henry, Fr. Bill Stang, Ben Lewans, Fr. Mike Dechant, Sr. Anne Lewans



Celebrations from Pelican Narrows & Sandy Bay

– submitted by Fr. Heinner Paucar



Fr. Heinner arrived back in Pelican Narrows on Monday, February 28 from a wonderful visit and vacation visiting family and friends in Peru. He was a bit surprised to be welcomed by all the snow!

Ash Wednesday, March 2nd, was well attended in both Communities.....

Pelican Narrows



Sandy Bay



On March 8, International Women's Day was celebrated in Sandy Bay. It was a day of recognition and appreciation of those women who are making progress in the community of Sandy Bay. Chief Karen Bird was the speaker at the celebration which was followed by a feast.



This is the third year that the Church in Sandy Bay has celebrated International Women's Day and each year the attendance has grown.

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### **Treasurer's Office:**

- *Audit 2021 on site portion for Queen's House, MAMI, Qu'Appelle House of Prayer and the SDC District is now complete, and all went very well! It was a pleasure working with Sarah and Laura from the Audit Team of Marcil Lavallee.*
- *2021 Income Tax season is here so please be sure to send all your tax information into our office.*
- *Thank you for continuing to send in your GST receipts in a timely manner. We really appreciate it.*



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Queen's House News – Brendan Bitz, Director

We continue to work with the uncertainty of the Covid moment in that even though restrictions have been lifted, neither risk nor Covid have “left the building”. We are grateful for our guests and groups who are steadily returning and for the quality programming that is on offer and is providing meaningful faith nourishment to so many. We are mindful of the awful circumstances unleashed in the Ukraine even as we are conscious of our First Nations Delegation to Rome and the Synod underway in our many church communities. These all point to the unusual times we are in and the call we have to ever deepen our commitment to faith, prayer, each other and especially our loving God. As always, we hang onto our refrain to say, “we will do what we can with what we have and who we are”.



Spring Fling Lottery 2022 – has begun! New for 2022, you can purchase your tickets directly online, through our website. Simply click the “buy raffle tickets” button and follow the prompts.

Not yet ready for online purchasing, simply call Martha at 306.270.2378.

Spring Fling website: <https://www.queenshouse.org>

From Queen’s House ... God Bless Us All!



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

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

OMI Lacombe Canada Website: www.omilacombe.ca

Qu’Appelle House of Prayer Website: www.qhpstillness.ca

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

Queen’s House Website at: www.queenshouse.org

St. Philip Neri Parish at: www.stphilipneriparish.ca

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