



HIGHLIGHTS

ONTARIO DISTRICT NEWS

July 2023

CELEBRATING LEONARDO REGO OMI

This past year we have had the opportunity of celebrating two very important anniversaries in Leonard's life. The first was his 80th Birthday (March 15th). As witnessed in this picture from Leonard's celebration with his Springhurst community – we recognize his exuberance of life and his love of family.

Leonard your joy in life is so infectious that it fills us with joy!



Then on May 12th your Jubilee Anniversary of your 1st Oblation with vows and which we were invited to celebrate with you on May 21st. We were invited to join you, your family, friends and your Oblate Family on May 21st at St Joes Parish for a special Mass presided by our Provincial Fr. Ken Thorson, followed by a reception in the Church Hall with a room full of well wishers and filled with gratitude that you are a part of our lives.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

FR. JAMES ROY BOUCHER, OMI



On May 26th, 2023 Fr. Roy passed away. Roy made his first Oblation on September 8, 1959 and was ordained as a priest on December 18 1965. Roy worked as Vocations Director for St. Peter's Province and Director of Novices at St. Theresa's Noviciate as well as in ministries such as Challenge, Cursillo and Galilee Proclaims. Roy also founded and led the Galilee Experience in Spiritual Renewal.

Throughout his life Roy was a vocal advocate for lay leadership in the Church. He also played an active role over the years in service to the Oblate Congregation, as well as taking part as a collaborator in the congregational project created by James E Sullivan OMI which arose out of the 1980 General Chapter and was called "Praying with the Constitutions". Roy also played a part in the Association Commission which was responsible for helping to bring the Oblate Associates from the Districts together under one umbrella as Oblate Associates of OMI Lacombe Province in 2014 in the first Associates making their Commitment in October of 2014.

We are all grateful for Roy's love and service to the Church, to the congregation, to the laity and to his own family.

Blessings and gratitude Roy for your service of love to all.

One of the greatest human spiritual tasks is to embrace all of humanity, to allow your heart to be a marketplace of humanity, to allow your interior life to reflect the pains and the joys of people not only from Africa and Ireland and Yugoslavia and Russia but also from people who lived in the fourteenth century and will live many centuries forward... It is good to be human. (Henri Nouwens)

FROM ST. EUGENE DE MAZENOD

I am well aware of the sacrifices, the privations, the torments that you have to pass through to obtain the results that you seek... become the instruments of god's mercies...

1855 letter to the Oblates of Red River



THE BIBLE IN THE LITURGY: STUDIES ON THE LECTIONARY (TERRA NOVA SERIES, VO. 9). Leuven (Belgium): Peeters Publishers, 2023

Written by Fr. Normand Bonneau, OMI - retired professor of New Testament Studies, Saint Paul University, Ottawa, former Dean of the Faculty of Theology, and former editor of Theoforum, is the author of *The Sunday Lectionary: Ritual Word, Paschal Shape* (Liturgical Press, 1998) and *Narrative Time in the New Testament: Essays on Mark, John and Paul* (Terra Nova, 8; Peeters 2020).

The post-Vatican II revision of the Lectionary for Mass (*Ordo Lectionum Missae*), more particularly the Lectionary for Sundays and Solemnities, was no mean accomplishment. Never before in the history of liturgy has so thoroughly-researched and carefully-conceived a revision of the Lectionary been carried out. Within two decades of its promulgation in 1969, it was adopted and slightly adapted as the basic template for the Common Lectionary (1983), now the Revised Common Lectionary (1992), used regularly in countless churches throughout the world. Nonetheless, the principles of reading selection and patterns of reading distribution that shape it—its “architecture”—remain little known. The studies collected in this volume present and elucidate key features that contribute to its design. Indispensable for the liturgical quickening of scripture, the Lectionary contains the words of Scripture that when proclaimed are transformed into the living Word of God (Christ “is present in his word since it is he himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read in church” Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy §7), providing nourishment for those who gather at the “table of the Word” (Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation §21).

It sells for 66 Euros (just under \$100 Canadian), and is available for purchase on the Peeters Publishers web site. (in Norm’s words very expensive and very “academic”.) For more information please contact Norm Bonneau OMI.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

A Celebration of Roy Boucher's life on July 15th will be held at Galilee, in partnership with Galilee Centre , some of the Oblate Associates of the Arnprior BOC and members of Roy's family. There will be a time of Reflection, memory sharing and a meal. Please note there will be a cost of \$35.00 for those wishing to stay for dinner as well as pre-registration. There will be an invitation sent out to all in the coming days.

IN OUR LOVE AND PRAYERS...

All the members of our communities and families who are struggling with health concerns. We pray with gratitude for all that we have been given, even as we ask the Beloved to accompany us in new ways of walking. St. Eugene shed your light on every member of your family.

Let us not forget about all who are listed in our **'At the foot of the Cross:' Saint Eugene's Prayer Group** which is announced and can be found in the Member's section of OMI Lacombe website. You can email your prayer requests to: PRAYERS@OMILACOMBE.CA

If you are interested in joining the St. Eugene's Prayer Group, please contact JoAnne Chrones at prayers@omilacombe.ca or 306-222-2819 (phone or text). Prayers can be for general or specific intentions.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Hanh Van Tran – July 15

Gail Hillier – July 16

Pamela Dixon – July 20

Renée Liss-Siraco – August 25



Four from our Springhurst community earlier this past spring. Looks to me like they were joyfully wishing us all a

VERY HAPPY SUMMER.