



*Saskatchewan District Community*

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## ***Sights and Sounds***

**November 28th, 2025**

### **Birthdays**



November 17th– Adele Longstaff

November 23rd - Gerry Weinkauff

December 2nd-Diane Lepage

December 24th - Corrine Pambrun

### **Coffee Time at Trinity Manor**

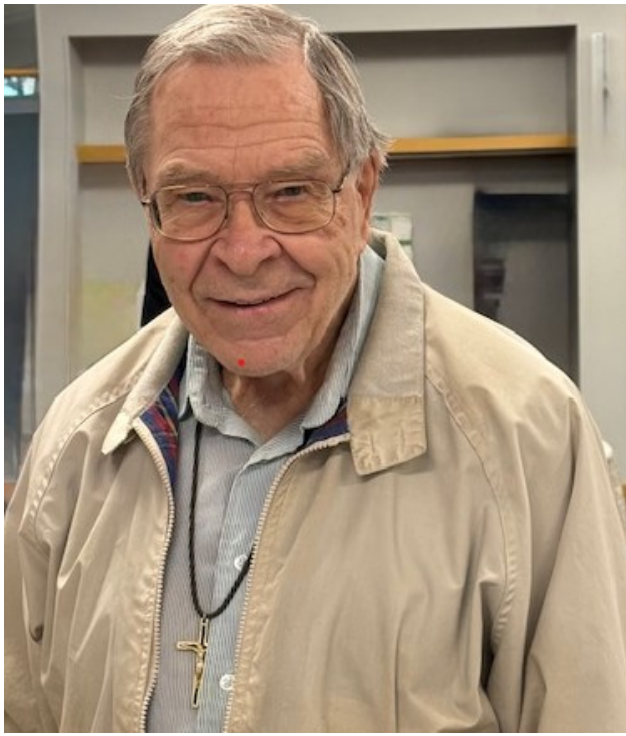
December 18, 2025 2:45 to 3:45



### **Anniversaries of Marriage**

November 4th - Paula & Jason Fournier - 30 yrs

November 18th - Diane & Bernard Lepage - 36 yrs



On Sunday November 2nd, 2025 the Saskatchewan District gathered together to toast, celebrate and bid farewell to our very own Fr. Joe Jacek as he begins his much deserved retirement and leaves us to join the Brother Anthony District. It was a wonderful evening! We will miss you Fr. Joe and hope you enjoy your new chapter on life's journey!



Fr. Albert Ulrich, Fr. Joe Jacek, Fr. Nestor Gregoire, Fr Eugene Warnke, Bishop Gerry Wienser, Fr. William Stang, Fr. Paul Facht & Fr. Doug Jeffrey.



Deb Rolfes, Anika Nechvatal, Fr. Joe Jacek, Katarina & Shaun Nechvatal & Fr. Paul Fachet are just a few of the many who came to celebrate Fr. Joe Jacek.

Darcie Lich & Fr. Eugene Warnke  
Just look at those smiles!



Reb Materi & Bishop Gerry Wiesner enjoy a story or two.



Fr. Albert Ulrich, Fr. Joe Jacek & Fr. Bill Stang enjoy some visiting and then smile nice for the camera.



Matt Sherry, Fr. Doug Jeffrey, Brian Zimmer, JoAnne Chrones & Lance Hartmann



Jim Longstaff, Brian Zimmer, Fr. Paul Fachet and Reb Materi toasted Fr. Joe Jacek as a man of faith, with a very big heart.

Fr. Joe thanked everyone and said he will miss us. We will miss you too Fr. Joe!





Jim & Adele Longstaff, along with Lori & Gerry Weinkauff gather with us to celebrate Fr. Joe Jacek and enjoy being together in community.

Below: As Gerry Weinkauff pours a drink he smiles and remembers the many get togethers at Queen's House.

Thank you Fr. Albert Ulrich, Mark Lich and Fr. William Stang for smiling for the camera!!!





As the evening drew to a close, we wanted to remember our time together, and so in true Saskatchewan District style, we gathered for a picture before Fr. Joe Jacek headed off to join the Brother Anthony Community. Thanks to Shaun Nechvatal the group picture turned out great!

Mark Lich, Lance Hartmann, Fr. Joe Jacek, Fr. Nestor Gregoire, Fr. Eugene Warnke, Fr. Bill Stang, Anika Nechvatal, Katarina Nechvatal, Fr. Doug Jeffrey, Matt Sherry, Gerry & Lori Weinkauff, Blain Young, Jim & Adele Longstaff, JoAnne Chrones, Corrine Pambrun, Brian Zimmer, Fr. Albert Ulrich, Bishop Gerry Wiesner, Fr. Paul Fachet, Reb Materi, Darcie Lich and our photographer Shaun Nechvatal.



JoAnne Chrones, Jim & Adele Longstaff, Fr. Albert Ulrich, Fr. Doug Jeffrey, Fr. Bill Stang, Brian Zimmer, Fr. Eugene Warnke, Corrine Pambrun, Fr. Paul Fachet, and Br. Harley Mapes.



The Saskatchewan District were very happy to spend some time with Br. Harley Mapes this month.

Together at coffee we shared stories and Br. Harley welcomed the anointing of the sick led by Fr. Doug Jeffrey. It was a moment filled with God's presence.



November coffee time at Trinity Manor gave us a chance to sing happy birthday to Adele Longstaff who celebrated her birthday November 17th.



Brian Zimmer, Fr. Paul Fachet, Adele Longstaff, Jim Longstaff, Fr. Doug Jeffrey, Fr. Albert Ulrich, Fr. Bill Stang, Harley Mapes, Fr. Eugene Warnke & JoAnne Chrones.

## **Sights and Sounds November 2025 – From the Superior's Desk**

The end of the nice weather, the end of November and the end of the liturgical year are all coming together as we send out another Sights and Sounds. We have been blessed with wonderful autumn weather and subtle reminders that God walks among us.

We began November with celebrations of our holy friends, the Saints and of those friends we have lost and heaven has gained. Our November continued with the celebration of Fr. Joe's work as chaplain at St. Anne's and then his move to St Albert which took place on November 10. We had a wonderful potluck supper at St. Philip Neri, some roasts and toasts of Joe and a prayer ritual reminding us that as Missionary Oblates we are continually being sent and welcomed. Joe seems to be settling in well at Foyer Lacombe. He was welcomed warmly by all and especially by Archbishop Sylvain Lavoie and Bro. Don Claerhout.

On November 3 we celebrated the launch of Fr. Ron Rolheiser's newly published book, "Insane for the Light", the third book in his 'spirituality of aging' trilogy. His third book follows the work he began with "Holy Longing" and continued with "Sacred Fire". For a copy of Ron's latest work contact JoAnne Chrones.

November continued to unfold with the celebration of our veterans (November 11) and the many men and women who continue to work to maintain peace in our world.

A meeting was held with the Association Animation Committee which is comprised of Brad and Chris Taylor, Sandy and Bernard Normand and Lance and Marla Hartman and Fr. Doug. We introduced ourselves and how the Oblate charism attracts us and influences us. We also set goals for our work together. We will begin by familiarizing ourselves with the Lacombe Province Program for Association and then we will look at how we incarnate the directions here in Saskatchewan. We are staying in close touch with Joanne and Dan Friedt our Provincial Animators so that our processes are aligned with the Provincial processes.

Our Animation Committee will meet again at the beginning of December and continue our work. We hope to have some information for reflection and discussion in time for our February District meeting.

In late October our District Leadership Team met. We celebrated the birthdays of Fr. Nestor and Fr. Joe. We had a nice lunch, and we said farewell to Fr. Joe. A highlight of our meeting was a conversation about how we in Saskatchewan will celebrate our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Approval of the Constitutions and Rules. More information to come.

Bro Harley spent two weeks in Saskatoon and made time to meet with family, friends and the Oblate community prior to his treatment for his cancer. Harley shared how his colon cancer has returned and spread to his lungs and liver. At our regular coffee at Trinity Manor we had the opportunity to hear Harley share his health journey with his typical candor and humor. We anointed him and wished him well. He thanked each of us for being a part of his journey. While it may have been our last encounter with our brother, we are hoping that he will return to us to share more of his wisdom and his humor.

As I write this, Fr. Ron Rolheiser has begun treatments for his cancer. During his treatment, Ron has lessened his workload but he continues to teach his classes. Yesterday, Br. Harley had a port surgically installed to deliver the chemo without a poke each time. Harley will begin his chemo treatment on Monday, December 1st. Fr. Richard Doll is undergoing surgery, and we are waiting to hear the results.

Throughout the course of our lives, we are made to wait, we wait for news and information, we wait in traffic, we wait in lines, we wait for people to respond to us, and we wait to grow up. Throughout our life we get lots of practice just waiting. Despite that practice, few of us perfect the virtue of waiting. Advent is about waiting. Blessed are those people among us who learn to wait.

As we enter this great season of waiting, we are reminded that we are waiting to celebrate the historical coming of Jesus and we are waiting to celebrate the return of Jesus at the end of time. Let us appreciate that we are waiting together. When we wait together, we have the opportunity of supporting each other and encouraging each other. Let us pray in gratitude for the gift of community and the blessing of being supported by one another; supported by family, by the friends we choose and the Oblate community that surrounds us.

*“In days to come the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.”* (Isaiah 2:2) Let us imagine ourselves streaming, a part of the throng who seek the Lord with all that we have and all that we are! Let us rejoice and pray for one another as we walk together toward the house of the Lord!

Peace,

Fr. Doug Jeffrey



## **Visit with the DeMong Sisters**

Brian and I were delighted to get a phone call in late October from Janice DeMong, Br. Walter's youngest sister. Janice lives on Vancouver Island and was coming to Saskatoon to visit family. Their sister, Sr. Darlene DeMong, NDS, had been living in Egypt since 1978, and has now moved back to Saskatoon. Sr. Darlene is now living at St. Ann's. We chuckled when Janice told us that her call was coming from Br. Walter's old flip phone! Wouldn't he be delighted that Janice was still using it? Janice and Sr. Darlene came over to our house, and we had a wonderful visit with them. When Br. Walter was hospitalized, and died, Brian would phone Sr. Darlene, in Egypt, and Janice, in BC, so they would be able to visit with Br. Walter. When he went into hospice care in his final days, they were able to say their final goodbyes to him. We had fun telling many "Walter" stories.

As sisters would, they weren't quite sure that we had been in the presence of a saint! We had lots of laughs. It was a blessing to be able to visit them and remember Br. Walter with love. And Br. Walter would also be proud that they got a ride to our house and walked back to St. Ann's. They are cut out of the same cloth. I am sorry I forgot to take a picture.

**Submitted by: JoAnne Chrones**

If you would like to share a story with the community, please send your write up to my attention with one or two pictures, and I will make sure to include your story in the next Sights & Sounds.



### **A message from the SDC Treasurer's Office**

Please remember to send in your receipts for the GST credit.

Corrine hopes to be away from the office December 20th and return to the office Monday January 5th 2026.

Please call Fr. Doug Jeffrey if you need assistance while Corrine is away.

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### **Please mark your calendars for our December 8th, 2025 Feast Day Celebration**

Sunday December 7th - St. Philip Neri Parish

We will gather at 4:30 pm

Potluck Supper

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

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