



Saskatchewan District Community
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Sights and Sounds

May 27th, 2026

Announcements

Anniversaries

May 21st- The Feast of
St. Eugene de Mazenod
Celebrating 200 years

Coffee Time at Samaritan Place

June 18th, 2026 2:30 to 4:00
July 23rd, 2026 2:30 to 4:00

Birthdays



May 16th - Fr. Paul Facht
May 12th - Marla Hartmann
May 26th - Fr. George Gruber

May the month of Mary



District Community Reflections from Fr. Doug

The great season of Easter has come to a close with the Feast of Pentecost. Today we celebrate the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church and so begin Ordinary Time which will take us to the Season of Creation followed by the conclusion of yet another liturgical year. With the passing of time we are being drawn into the life of the Most Holy Trinity where we discover our deepest identity and what it is that God asks of us. Despite the many challenges that come our way we are made for the glory of God and this truth shapes how we live our lives. As Oblates and Associates the Charism of St. Eugene also shapes our lives and how we express our commitment to the mission of the Church and the building of the Body of Christ.

On May 21st we celebrated the feast of St. Eugene de Mazenod. We gathered at Samaritan Place in the “Pub Room” for coffee at 2:30 and visiting. At 4:00 we reorganized ourselves and celebrated the Eucharist. During the liturgy which marks the death of St. Eugene and his journey to the communion of Saints we were reminded that at his death he invited his brothers to practice charity with one another and he invited them to look out for the poor. During the homily we were invited to reflect on how we are looking out for the members of our District and how we are looking out for the poor. Given the celebration of the feast and the scriptures we listened to, we were invited to ask two questions when we get up in the morning:

In our daily lives, who are the poor, the captives, the downtrodden and the blind in need of a year of favor”?

What is the Holy Spirit calling forth from me?

Following our celebration of the Eucharist we had a quiet Happy Hour followed by a supper featuring pizza from TJs and salads brought by various members. Around 6:30 clean-up was underway and people slowly drifted back to their rooms and homes. We had experienced the ‘Charity, Charity...’ that St. Eugene continues to call forth from us.

In the coming days we have a few things to look forward to. Fr. Andrew will be coming to Saskatoon to meet with the Association Animation Committee. On Friday, May 29th the Committee will meet with Fr. Andrew at our Office. We will be joined by Dan and Joanne Friedt our Province Animators for Association. Together we will look at the document we have been working on which outlines how we will continue to live and grow the charism of St. Eugene as the number of vowed Oblates continues to diminish in Saskatchewan. I will keep you updated on those conversations

On Tuesday, June 9th at 6:30 we will have another Associate Formation Session at our District Office. We will continue to explore the Oblate Charism as we look at the life of St. Eugene.

Preparations will continue for our celebration of the 200th anniversary of the approval of our Rule of Life. On Sunday, July 5th we will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Philip Neri Parish. Following the Eucharistic Celebration we will have a Presentation entitled: ***The Oblate Charism in the Congregation and the Church – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow***. This Presentation will be offered by members of the Saskatchewan District Community. Both the Mass of Thanksgiving and the Presentation will be open to the public. Please invite your friends and family to this time of celebration.

Our celebration of the 200th Anniversary will continue at 4:30 pm at the Canadian Brewhouse in Stonebridge where a ticketed 'Meet and Greet' and Supper will take place. Those who purchase tickets (\$40.00 per person) by June 20th will have the opportunity to rub shoulders with our Oblate Elders and Associates here in the Saskatchewan District and enjoy delicious food.

We continue to pray for God's blessing on our Provincial Convocation which is scheduled for September 28-October 2. This will be a wonderful opportunity to gather as a Province and celebrate what God has done and what God continues to do in our midst.

We also continue to pray for our sisters and brothers who are struggling with their health. Let us pray for one another that in all things God's will be done.



Celebrating 200 years



Saskatchewan Local Community

#210 – 160 Phelps Way
Saskatoon, SK S7V 0K7

Dear friends of the Oblates:

*Sunday, July 5, 2026 – Mass of Thanksgiving at 1:30pm, St. Philip Neri Parish followed by a Presentation on the Oblate Charism offered by Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI, Fr. Doug Jeffrey, OMI and Dr. Christine Taylor, DMin. **All are welcome!***

*Sunday, July 5, 2026 – Meet and Greet the Oblate Elders and Associates of Saskatchewan at the Canadian Brewhouse, 3150 Preston Ave. in Stonebridge, Saskatoon, at 4:30 pm followed by supper at 5:30 pm. **Admission by Ticket Only.***

Tickets are \$40.00 per person. Tickets include one appetizer, 2 drink vouchers and a full meal (salad, entrée and dessert). When you purchase your ticket please indicate your meat preference, turkey or prime rib, rare, medium, well done. Deadline for ticket purchase is June 20, 2026.

Please contact the SDC Office, Corrine Pambrun at (306) 653 6452 or by email at finance@sdcsaskatoon.ca

Why the Celebration?

This year the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate are celebrating a significant milestone. 200 years ago, Pope Leo XII gave the Church's approval to a Rule of Life for a small group of men who were intent on making known the gospel to those who had been abandoned by the Institutional Church at the time. Inspired by St. Eugene de Mazenod, this small group set out to share the gospel not only in Southern France but wherever there was great need. In December of 1841, two Oblate brothers and two Oblate priests arrived in Montreal. They were joined by countless others and were instrumental in helping to establish the Church in Canada. Many of the dioceses in Western and Northern Canada were established through the work of the Missionary Oblates and their collaborators.

On behalf of the Oblates and Associates from the Saskatchewan District, please know that we look forward to celebrating with you at the public event and/or at the ticketed event! Let us continue to ask St. Eugene de Mazenod to help us make known the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who have not yet found a safe home in the Institutional Church.

Fr. Doug Jeffrey, OMI for the Saskatchewan District Oblates and Associates.

May 21st the Saskatchewan Community gathered together at Samaritan Place to celebrate our Oblate Feast Day.

Fr. Doug prepared a beautiful mass and it felt extra special as we sat around the table surrounded by the Charism of St. Eugene De Mazenod.

Following mass, we enjoyed great fellowship with munchies & wine followed by a very tasty pizza supper with salads made by SDC members.

Above: Fr. Doug Jeffrey.

Across: Gerry Weinkauf, Fr. Bill Stang, Marla Hartmann, Adele Longstaff, Lance Hartmann, Jim Longstaff, Fr. Doug Jeffrey and Bishop Gerry Wiesner.

Doreen Myrfield, Mark Lich, Gerry Weinkauf, Fr. Bill Stang.

Below: Lance Hartmann, Brian Zimmer, JoAnne Chrones, Fr. Paul Fachel, Sandy Normand & Marla Hartmann.





More moments caught from our Feast Day Party!

Above: Fr. Albert Ulrich, Brian Zimmer, Rick Myrfield, Fr. Paul Fachel, Mark Lich, Fr. Eugene Warnke.

Bonnie Roberts, Bishop Gerry Wiesner.

Below: The 4 De Mazenod Muskateers Maybe?



Adele & Jim Longstaff, Fr. Doug Jeffrey.

Sandy Normand, JoAnne Chrones & Doreen Myrfield.





May 16th, 2026 Fr. Paul Facht celebrated his 85th birthday. Those who could gathered to celebrate with juice and delicious birthday cake made by JoAnne Chrones.

May 26th, 2026 Fr. George Gruber celebrated his 93rd birthday. We wanted to celebrate him last week when we gathered, but Fr. George tired out before we could !!! Happy birthday Fr. George!



A Message from OMI Lacombe Canada

Throughout 2026, we are pleased to launch a special new initiative entitled
“Meet An Oblate” series.

The purpose of this series is to help people get to know the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate through the stories, experiences, ministries, and personal reflections of Oblates serving in various communities and ministries across Canada and around the world.

As we begin this new initiative in 2026, we will first feature our 2026 Oblate Jubilarians.
Please find attached the list of the 2026 Jubilarians.

An Oblate Jubilarian is a member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate celebrating a significant anniversary of priesthood or religious profession; milestones that reflect decades of faithful service, dedication to the Gospel, and commitment to walking with God’s people, especially the poor and most vulnerable.

Through this series, we will share stories in our newsletters and on our social media channels, offering a glimpse into the vocation, ministry, leadership, and lived experiences of our Oblates. From Silver Jubilees celebrating 25 years of service to Golden, Diamond, and beyond, these stories will help others better understand the life and mission of the Oblates today.

We are currently working with a contract communications consultant, Shanlyn Cunningham, who is based in St. Albert, AB. We have already provided Shanlyn with background information on many of our 2026 Jubilarians; however, she will reach out to you directly to finalize the information to be included in the “Meet and Oblate” series and, of course, to seek your approval of the final content before publication. We kindly ask that you make time to connect with Shanlyn when she contacts you, as your input and collaboration will help make this initiative both meaningful and authentic.

We invite you to follow along throughout the year as we share these stories and celebrate the many ways the Oblates continue to live out their missionary vocation in service to the Church and the world.

Stay tuned for our first featured Oblate coming soon!



List of Jubilees – 2026

By Jubilee Anniversary / By Month

Religious Life

- **50 years** - Fr. Eugene Warnke, OMI – August 7, 1976
- **60 years:**
 - Fr. Gilbert Bertrand, OMI – March 19, 1966
 - Fr. André Boyer, OMI – September 8, 1966
 - Fr. James Fiori, OMI – September 8, 1966
 - Fr. Armand Le Gal, OMI – September 8, 1966
 - Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, OMI – September 8, 1966
- **70 years:**
 - Fr. Edward Kosa, OMI – May 3, 1956
 - Fr. William Thompson, OMI – August 15, 1956
 - Bishop Gerald Wiesner, OMI – September 8, 1956

Ordination

- **25 years** - Fr. Frank Kuczera, OMI – May 11, 2001
- **50 years:**
 - Fr. Normand Bonneau, OMI – May 29, 1976
 - Fr. Wladyslaw Karciarz, OMI – January 3, 1976
- **60 years:**
 - Fr. Martin Moser, OMI – December 17, 1966
 - Fr. William Stang, OMI - October 20, 1966
- **70 years:**
 - Fr. Maurice Joly, OMI – June 16, 1956

By Month

January

Ordination

- **50 years** – Fr. Wladyslaw Karciarz, OMI – January 3, 1976

March

Religious Life

- **60 years** – Fr. Gilbert Bertrand, OMI – March 19, 1966

May

Religious Life

- **70 years** – Fr. Edward Kosa, OMI – May 3, 1956

Ordination

- **25 years** – Fr. Frank Kuczera, OMI – May 11, 2001
- **50 years** – Fr. Normand Bonneau, OMI – May 29, 1976

June

Ordination

- **70 years** – Fr. William Thompson, OMI – August 15, 1956

August

Religious Life

- **50 years** – Fr. Eugene Warnke, OMI – August 7, 1976
- **70 years** – Fr. William Thompson, OMI – August 15, 1956

September

Religious Life

- **60 years:**
 - o Fr. André Boyer, OMI – September 8, 1966
 - o Fr. James Fiori, OMI – September 8, 1966
 - o Fr. Armand Le Gal, OMI – September 8, 1966
 - o Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, OMI – September 8, 1966
- **70 years:**
 - o Bishop Gerald Wiesner, OMI – September 8, 1956

October

Ordination

- **60 years** - Fr. William Stang, OMI – October 20, 1966

December

Ordination

- **60 years** – Fr. Martin Moser, OMI – December 17, 1966

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 RSVP for our July 5th, 200th Anniversary Celebration.
Please note that Corrine will be away from the office **May 28th - June 3rd**.
Please call Fr. Doug Jeffrey if you need immediate assistance.



Next coffee time: June 18th
2:30 to 4:00 pm
Samaritan Place

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

OMI Lacombe Canada Website: www.omilacombe.ca