



OMI Information No. 577 (English)

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Letter of the Superior General for the Feast of St. Eugene de Mazenod

Thanks to our Senior Oblates

Dear Brother Oblates and all who form part of the Oblate Family,

With joy and gratitude we celebrate the day on which our Founder and Father, Saint Eugene de Mazenod, entered the Father's House. Happy feast day!

The capitulars of the 36th General Chapter addressed a "Message" to all the Oblates and to the brothers and sisters of the Mazenodian family, which states: "We look to the past with gratitude, beginning with St. Eugene de Mazenod and all of our predecessors, including our living elder brothers whom we greet most especially." (ACTS, p.9). The Chapter, imbued with a great sense of fraternal communion, highlighted in a very special way the strong connection to our elders. On this feast day, I would like to express our great love and gratitude to each one of you.

In 2001, the then Father General, Bishop Wilhelm Steckling, addressed a letter to the Senior Oblates of the Congregation. This letter is as inspiring today as it was when written 16 years ago. You can find it on the OMI web page under the writings of the Superior General, Father Steckling, September 8, 2001.

On this feast of Saint Eugene, I too would like to address you who are considered to be our elders. In Leflon's biography, Eugene de Mazenod, he writes that, until December, 1860, at age 78, De Mazenod displayed amazing energy and mental clarity, even with a life of austere penitential practices. "He delighted in boasting that his colleagues were unable to match his youthful vigor..."! (Vol. IV, p. 299) Such vigor

was slowly to disappear after the discovery of a tumor, followed by three operations, medical complications, and four months of suffering, until his death on May 21, 1861.

I will use Saint Eugene's age of 78 in 1860, before his illness manifested itself, to make an observation on our present state: there are now 766 Oblates who are 78 or older, out of a total number of 3696 members, about 20% of the Congregation. The number of Oblates under the age of 50 is 1718, around 46% of the Congregation! Let us celebrate this good news: we are blessed by our elders and by our youthful members!

I wouldn't dare to define who among us falls into the category of being "an elderly Oblate." This is a delicate, even dangerous, topic! This expression in fact doesn't exactly sound very nice to many ears and some societies, especially in the West, try to find more pleasant expressions to describe an older person: one of mature years; a senior; one who is in the third age; an elder; a wisdom figure; a golden-ager! Other cultures of the South and East have great esteem and veneration for the aged person who represents wisdom and a full life. It is a great blessing and honor to care for an elderly member. We have much to learn from this approach.

For Oblates, when growing older means withdrawing from ministry, we missionaries have a problem. I have found that there are three main reasons we don't want to let go of ministry: it is our life; Oblates love the people; we want to feel useful.

Mission is our life.

For Oblates, preaching the Gospel is not a job. It is an all-consuming passion to communicate God's Good News through the witness of our life. How often the Founder railed against the showy displays of preaching which exalted the preacher and his ego more than edified the people. It is the life, the witness, the integrity of the preacher that mattered. From the very beginning of his society, Eugene's desire to move toward consecrated life was to ensure that the missionaries would be men of holiness. In this way their preaching would be consistent with their lives.

When I spoke to people of a ministry site from which the Oblates withdrew, I asked how the community was faring. The people told me that they now have "professional ministers" who are only available during established office hours. One can retire from this kind of employment or job. But this is far from an Oblate model of missionary life, one defined by the needs of the people we serve. Although we must learn to monitor our activity as we age, there is no retirement from being a missionary, because it is a way of life.

Oblates love people.

Our love for the people is closely connected to mission as our way of life. A very special aspect of our charism is our deep connection to God's people, especially the poor, and we find it a terrible loss when we can no longer minister to them. True to our charism, we are close to the people with whom we work (C#8) and that relationship is life-giving to us. We are loved by God's people.

Oblate mission consists in relationships, giving ourselves to people and getting tied up in their lives. This is a special element of our charism. The Founder's visit to the elderly lady on the rue de l'Echelle is so poignant for us. His lively exchanges, in the same salty banter used by the fishwives on the docks of Marseilles, inspire our missionary lives. Because mission is a way of life that brings us close to the people, we cannot withdraw from it without a great sense of loss. We need to help each other grieve the loss of these

very significant relationships when age or illness forces it to happen.

In many places today, where there is a lack of priests and pastoral agents, Oblates of an advanced age, both priests and brothers, are generously serving parishes, religious communities of Sisters and Brothers, are on call for hospital visits, being with families who have lost a loved one, burying the dead, and ready for any other pastoral service. You are available and generous, even when you have difficulty in getting around and perhaps shouldn't be! Thank you!

Oblates like to feel useful.

We have missionary genes; we enjoy working and we tend to overwork. We are men of action and we want to die with our boots on. This insatiable spirit comes from Eugene himself who possessed a pastoral heart, anxious to respond to the most urgent needs of God's people. Oblates find it hard to slow down, even when we are sick and when the aging process indicates a change must be made. We try to avoid moving to the infirmary or retirement residence at all costs! How many of our residences are built with the cemetery just out back!

Leaving full-time ministry is extremely difficult for us. We don't see ourselves as real missionaries when we don't have a ministerial assignment. Work is important and necessary to missionary life, and it is very gratifying to see our accomplishments and how much the people love us. But active ministry does not determine whether or not we are missionaries. Being a missionary involves something deeper and much more demanding: our oblation, lived through the vow of obedience, defines the real missionary. Perhaps the hardest obedience to accept is to let go of ministry or move to a retirement residence.

Your life, your being, offered to the Father by following Jesus who was obedient, is the authentic sign of your missionary life. I want to affirm that you, our elders, are fully missionary, no matter whether you are presently engaged in any ministry or not. The grace to accept your limitations with serenity and joy is a heroic grace

and one to ask for ardently. I will not mention the difficulty to recognize when we can no longer drive a car... One of the most difficult tasks is helping an Oblate realize that he is no longer capable of driving!

“Pulling your weight”

Connected to feeling useful is the question that many of you have written to me about: you are very concerned that you are no longer financially “pulling your weight” in the Congregation. You have a great concern for the sustainability of the Congregation! I want you to know that, when you are no longer able to bring in a salary for the Congregation, we gratefully support you. You are not a burden! Our care for you is an expression of the family bond among us that comes from the heart of Saint Eugene.

In the context of some Units, due to the cost of health care, maintaining Oblate residences for assisted living or skilled care for our older men is now a luxury we cannot always afford. By joining with other religious, priests and lay people in shared residences, we are able to provide good health care at a sustainable cost. This is a new way to live our vow of poverty through a simple lifestyle, and perhaps something we never imagined.

We cherish you.

Dear brother Oblates, our elders, you are very much an important part of the Congregation and the wider Oblate Family. We cherish you and have great esteem for your lives and missionary commitment. You were our formators, mentors, professors, companions... Most of you were very young when the Congregation experienced a robust period of expansion and the sky was the limit! You welcomed the second Vatican Council and its spirit of *aggiornamento*. You led the Congregation through a period of revolutionary changes, wonderful hopes, and some turmoil. So many Oblates departed from the Congregation, an immense sadness expressed by Fathers Leo Deschatelets and Fernand Jetté. Perseverance is part of the Oblate charism. Is anything more beautiful than remaining faithful? Thank you for your faithful witness!

You helped all of us rediscover the humanity and sanctity of Eugene de Mazenod. You started to articulate the mysterious reality called the Oblate charism. You accented the vision of the Congregation as a missionary body to evangelize the poor and build up the Church through your prophetic missionary options and the inspiration so beautifully expressed in those fundamental documents which continue to guide and challenge us. We are filled with admiration and gratitude!

Your lives matter to us. We probably take you for granted often, and don't say to you how much you mean to us. You might feel placed to the side, out of the loop, and relegated to a forgotten place in the life of your Unit. We have learned from you to value work and action over many other important aspects of life, and it might seem like we forget you. But we don't! The care that the Congregation gives you is a sign of our esteem and affection for you. We often fail in visiting you. Please forgive us.

Your love for the Congregation blesses us.

Your missionary interest in the Congregation stimulates us. Wherever I have gone in the Oblate world, I have enjoyed being with you and reveling in your tremendous missionary spirit. You want to hear about the Congregation and about the missions we are beginning. You call us to respond to the urgent needs before us like the situation of migrants and refugees. Your love for the Congregation is expressed in your concern and prayer for vocations and for the men in formation. This concern for Oblate life and mission is an expression of your love for this wonderful family begun by Saint Eugene.

Your mission is oblation.

As Father General, I dare to suggest to you that your mission now is to accept with love the limitations coming from age or sickness. This is the most perfect oblation you can offer on the congregation's behalf. You live by faith and hope as you welcome each day with a courageous spirit, believing that your life makes sense as you freely hand it over to the Lord. The words of Jesus are so significant: “No one takes my life from me; I lay it down freely” (Jn. 10:17-18).

At the present time, you are perhaps able to give a small amount of work to the Lord, but you are giving something much more, your very self. Saint Paul has so many insights to encourage you: “Brothers, I beg you through the mercy of God to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice holy and acceptable to God, your spiritual worship.” (Rom 12:1). You are not only giving your ministry to God, you are giving your very being to God, helping to complete the sufferings of Christ (Col. 1:24).

Thank you for your courage and strength in the midst of suffering. I enjoy your spirit of joy and your laughter when I am in your communities. This is a precious gift to us, a sign of the way you are integrating a life of mission while moving deeply into the mystery of God. Please share your faith with us and inspire us with hope. Show us a life that is bringing everything together in joy even where there is pain, a life that has discovered forgiveness and has been nourished by goodness and generosity. So many of you radiate this. Thank you!

Hold us in prayer.

In addition to your primary mission to offer your

life to God, I also give you the mission to pray and intercede for the world, the Church and the Congregation. Grow in deep intimacy with the Holy Trinity and hold us in your hearts before the mystery of God. Pray for our faithfulness to the charism, so that we will embrace the calls of the General Chapter and the challenges of our world with DeMazenod’s audacity.

We promise to visit you!

The Congregation is committed to pray for you, but we must also do more. I ask all of us to examine our commitment to our older Oblates who are infirm and/or retired. Let us be intentional about visiting them. Our quality presence is a sign of our family bond and an expression of the legacy of charity left to us by Saint Eugene de Mazenod.

Happy feast of Saint Eugene!

Your brother Oblate, with my prayers and love in Jesus Christ and Mary Immaculate,

Fr. Louis Lougen, OMI, Superior General

HOLY SEE

VATICAN

Bishop Eugeniusz Juretzko retires

On April 25, 2017, the Vatican made the following announcement: “The Holy Father Francis has accepted the retirement from the pastoral governance of the diocese of Yokadouma (Cameroon) presented by His Excellency, Bishop Eugeniusz Juretzko, O.M.I.”

Born in Poland in 1939, Bishop JURETZKO was one of the first Polish Oblates to receive an obedience to Cameroon. According to an interview on the Polish website (<http://misyjne.pl/misja/jest-piekniej/>), after his ordination to the priesthood in 1964, he had a strong desire to work in a foreign mission. Some of the young Oblates were preparing to go to Russia as soon as that country would show openness to the presence of Roman Catholic missionaries. Then they changed their focus to Brazil.

But in 1967, Bishop Yves PLUMEY (†1991) of Garoua Cameroon, visited the Oblates in Odra, Poland, where Father Juretzko was working as parish vicar. Bishop Plumey told the young Oblate that even though he wanted to go to Brazil, he was also needed in Cameroon. France had sent many missionaries to that country but was no longer able to do so. Father Juretzko confessed that when the Oblate Provincial, Fr. Józef KAMIŃSKI, asked who wanted to go to Cameroon, he did not even know where Cameroon was located. But after some library research, he told the provincial that he was willing to go. After all, he had joined the Congregation to be a missionary.

In those days of Communism, it was difficult to obtain a passport. Bishop Plumey himself accompanied four young Oblates to the appropriate office in Warsaw. The clerk was so impressed that such an important dignitary came

to him that he granted the passports to the Oblates who soon embarked on a three week journey by ship to their new mission.

On May 20, 1991, Eugeniusz Juretzko was named the first bishop of the newly formed Diocese of Yokadouma, a territory of over 30,000 km² and currently, over 20,000 Catholics.

General Administration

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Our Elder Brothers

The last time we published the names of our elder brothers who have reached the age of 90 was in 2015. At that time, there were 128 names on the list. As of 2 May 2017, there were 112 names. We publish these names as a sign of our gratitude for the missionary zeal and example these men have been to us in their long lives.

Name	OMI Unit	Birth	Ordination	1st Vows	Age
Fr. Pigeon Léo-Paul	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	07/03/1914	15/06/1941	02/08/1935	103
Fr. Wittenbrink Boniface	United States	30/06/1914	20/09/1941	15/08/1936	102
F. Rioux Louis	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	09/08/1915		08/09/1937	101
Fr. Montgrain Philippe	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	18/08/1917	18/06/1944	15/08/1939	99
Bishop Dupont Georges-H.	Cameroon	16/11/1919	09/05/1943	08/09/1938	97
Fr. Lechat Robert	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	17/01/1920	01/06/1945	10/08/1943	97
Fr. Hehn Joseph-Etienne	France	03/02/1920	29/08/1943	15/08/1938	97
F. D'Orazio Giuseppe	General Admin.	24/02/1920		12/06/1941	97
Fr. Domínguez Olegario	Paraguay	06/03/1920	10/03/1946	15/08/1938	97
Fr. Gauthier Roger	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	04/09/1920	31/05/1947	02/08/1941	96
Fr. Shahun Alexander	Lacombe	19/10/1920	04/06/1948	08/09/1941	96
Fr. Zachman Clarence	United States	02/11/1920	05/06/1948	15/08/1943	96
Fr. Michalak Paul	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	21/11/1920	23/02/1947	08/09/1943	96
Fr. Saison Léon	France	25/12/1920	18/04/1945	08/09/1942	96
Fr. Mercier Pierre	France	08/01/1921	27/02/1944	15/08/1938	96
Fr. Langelier Rosaire	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	11/05/1921	16/06/1950	17/05/1943	95
Fr. Healy Patrick	United States	01/06/1921	02/06/1947	08/09/1941	95
Fr. Fuseau Alexis	France	03/09/1921	04/07/1954	08/09/1949	95
Fr. Careil Adolphe	France	30/10/1921	15/04/1945	15/10/1940	95
Fr. Maboge Jean	Belgium/Neth.	13/05/1922	14/07/1946	08/09/1943	94
Fr. McSweeney William	United States	22/05/1922	02/06/1952	08/09/1946	94
Fr. Mohan Oliver	Lacombe	26/06/1922	29/06/1948	15/09/1942	94
Fr. Guiziou Marc	France	14/10/1922	29/02/1948	08/09/1942	94
Fr. Buteau François	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	17/10/1922	16/06/1950	02/08/1946	94
Fr. Montalbano Francis	United States	31/10/1922	14/02/1947	29/06/1941	94
Fr. Svobodny Aloysius	United States	13/01/1923	04/06/1949	26/08/1944	94
Fr. Baers Joris	Belgium/Neth.	26/06/1923	10/07/1949	08/09/1944	93
Fr. Chai John	Australia	18/07/1923	29/04/1951	08/12/1959	93
Fr. Barbeau Hugues	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	01/08/1923	01/07/1950	15/08/1943	93
Fr. Atangana Alexis	Cameroon	08/08/1923	08/12/1957	26/07/1954	93
Fr. Peña Roberto	United States	03/09/1923	31/05/1955	18/07/1949	93

Name	OMI Unit	Birth	Ordination	1st Vows	Age
Fr. Deveau Adhemar	United States	12/09/1923	12/06/1952	02/08/1947	93
Fr. Döing Heinrich	Central European	12/02/1924	06/07/1952	29/09/1947	93
Fr. Matton André	Belgium/Neth.	13/02/1924	16/06/1949	23/10/1943	93
Fr. Patterson John	Natal	22/02/1924	29/06/1950	15/09/1943	93
Fr. Dufault Norbert	Lacombe	11/05/1924	21/06/1953	15/08/1948	92
Fr. Boisseau Joseph	France	24/05/1924	19/02/1950	15/08/1944	92
Fr. Rademaker Jan	Lacombe	02/06/1924	20/12/1969	15/08/1966	92
Fr. LaPlante Vincent	Lacombe	13/06/1924	29/05/1954	08/09/1949	92
Fr. Guéguen Jean	France	20/06/1924	17/02/1949	08/09/1943	92
Fr. Blackburn Maurice	Lacombe	03/07/1924	09/07/1950	15/08/1944	92
Bishop Verstraete Daniel	Central S. Africa.	31/07/1924	19/02/1950	08/09/1944	92
Fr. Col Jean	France	25/08/1924	01/07/1951	15/09/1947	92
Fr. Roy Louis-Philippe	Lacombe	14/09/1924	29/01/1950	02/08/1944	92
Fr. Keyzer Jacques	Belgium/Neth.	28/09/1924	29/09/1950	08/09/1945	92
Fr. Balthazard Joseph	Belgium/Neth.	03/10/1924	08/07/1951	08/09/1946	92
Fr. Charrier René	France	08/10/1924	19/02/1950	29/09/1944	92
Fr. Guidon Patrick	United States	11/11/1924	19/11/1950	15/09/1944	92
Fr. Drolet Jacques	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	15/11/1924	12/06/1954	02/08/1948	92
Fr. Glintzboeckel Marcel	France	25/11/1924	05/07/1953	15/08/1948	92
Fr. Bilodeau Marc	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	16/12/1924	01/06/1951	02/08/1945	92
Fr. Vantroys Jean-Paul	Lacombe	16/01/1925	18/02/1951	25/03/1946	92
Fr. Alonso Fortunato	Mediterranean	02/02/1925	25/03/1950	25/07/1944	92
Fr. Alarie Laurent	Lacombe	01/03/1925	15/06/1952	15/08/1947	92
Fr. Leca Noël	France	11/03/1925	26/02/1950	15/09/1944	92
F. Delanghe Oscar	Lacombe	07/04/1925		08/09/1946	92
F. Capek Victor	United States	26/04/1925		15/08/1963	92
Fr. Reignat Henri	France	11/05/1925	18/02/1951	08/12/1945	91
Fr. Baratto Virgilio	Lacombe	26/06/1925	29/06/1952	06/01/1948	91
Fr. Beaudoin Henri	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	29/06/1925	15/09/1951	08/09/1944	91
Fr. Cavagne Daniel	France	07/07/1925	26/02/1950	15/09/1944	91
Fr. Morin Jean	United States	08/07/1925	29/07/1951	16/07/1946	91
Fr. Risse Max	Central European	09/07/1925	17/12/1955	01/05/1949	91
Fr. O'Sullivan Brendan	Anglo-Irish	11/07/1925	15/07/1951	29/09/1945	91
Fr. Cousineau Gérard	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	23/07/1925	24/06/1960	15/08/1955	91
Fr. Frémaux Michel	France	31/07/1925	06/07/1952	29/09/1946	91
F. Fortin Luc	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	03/08/1925		19/03/1946	91
F. Gagné Almas	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	14/08/1925		15/09/1953	91
Fr. Bonadio Angelo	Mediterranean	29/08/1925	12/02/1950	15/08/1944	91
F. Fernández Nicolás	Mediterranean	10/09/1925		25/07/1955	91
F. Mailhot Urbain	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	19/09/1925		06/05/1948	91
Fr. Correa Hernán	Argentina-Chile	20/09/1925	17/12/1966	01/05/1961	91
Fr. Kubitza Clemens	Central European	23/09/1925	12/07/1953	15/08/1948	91
Fr. Hurtubise Paul	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	03/10/1925	07/06/1952	15/08/1946	91
Fr. McCluskey Peter	Anglo-Irish	05/10/1925	22/06/1952	29/09/1946	91
Fr. Bradley Michael	Poland	13/10/1925	17/12/1966	15/08/1961	91
Fr. Doazan Louis	France	19/10/1925	24/02/1951	15/11/1945	91

Name	OMI Unit	Birth	Ordination	1st Vows	Age
Fr. Pelletier Gustave	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	15/11/1925	22/12/1951	02/08/1947	91
Fr. Crowe Raymond	United States	04/12/1925	30/05/1954	08/09/1949	91
Fr. Plouffe Paul-Eugène	Lacombe	10/12/1925	24/06/1961	15/08/1956	91
Fr. Van Helden Eugene	Belgium/Neth.	17/12/1925	13/07/1952	08/09/1947	91
Fr. Lynde Michel	France	26/12/1925	19/02/1950	24/02/1946	91
Fr. Laudin Georges	France	15/01/1926	17/02/1952	15/10/1945	91
Fr. King Peter	Australia	25/01/1926	19/03/1958	12/12/1962	91
Fr. Wynne James	United States	06/03/1926	31/05/1955	15/08/1949	91
Fr. Beaudoin Yvon	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	19/03/1926	05/07/1953	16/07/1947	91
Fr. Murphy John	Anglo-Irish	01/04/1926	24/06/1951	29/09/1945	91
Fr. Houle André	United States	15/04/1926	02/02/1952	16/07/1946	91
Fr. Duhamel Joao B.	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	17/05/1926	12/06/1953	16/07/1949	90
Fr. Tissot Pierre	France	18/05/1926	22/03/1953	06/11/1949	90
Fr. Lesz Antoni	Poland	13/06/1926	30/05/1954	08/09/1949	90
Fr. Taché Alexandre	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	13/06/1926	24/03/1951	02/08/1944	90
Fr. Menker Joseph	United States	03/07/1926	26/05/1953	15/08/1948	90
Fr. Pauwels Oscar	Lacombe	16/07/1926	24/02/1952	08/09/1946	90
Fr. Coati Giangiacomo	Mediterranean	12/09/1926	20/02/1949	15/08/1944	90
Fr. Haslam Richard	Anglo-Irish	27/09/1926	29/06/1950	15/09/1944	90
Fr. Ranger Germain	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	07/10/1926	12/06/1953	02/08/1947	90
Fr. Boulanger Guy	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	10/10/1926	20/09/1952	02/08/1946	90
Fr. Gacis Prospero	Philippines	11/10/1926	21/12/1957	02/07/1951	90
F. Boulianne Yvon	Lacombe	06/11/1926		01/05/1957	90
Fr. Casarotto Ottorino	Mediterranean	29/11/1926	24/12/1950	08/12/1947	90
Fr. Lussier Garcia	Notre-Dame-du-Cap	14/12/1926	20/09/1952	02/08/1946	90
F. Dominique Antoine	Haiti	15/12/1926		17/02/1952	90
Fr. Le Calvé Lucien	France	26/12/1926	17/02/1952	29/09/1946	90
Fr. Bolduc Richard	United States	29/12/1926	19/01/1964	02/08/1958	90
Fr. Kavanagh Francis	Lacombe	04/02/1927	04/06/1953	08/09/1946	90
F. Des Chênes Raymond	Lacombe	06/02/1927		17/02/1947	90
Fr. Campagnuolo Tommaso	Mediterranean	21/02/1927	17/02/1952	15/08/1946	90
Fr. Carignan Armand	Philippines	22/02/1927	24/06/1953	02/08/1948	90
Fr. del Blanco Ernesto	Mediterranean	17/03/1927	02/03/1952	25/07/1946	90
Fr. Cyr Myles	United States	13/04/1927	17/06/1954	02/08/1949	90
Fr. Marion André	France	23/04/1927	03/07/1955	08/09/1952	90

Latin America

ARGENTINA

"When the charism beats in your heart"

The "Refugio San Eugenio" in Virrey del Pino, Buenos Aires, Argentina, is celebrating 10 years of service to youth. The provincial of the Argentina-Chile Province, Fr. Tony MARIANGELI, and the director of the "Refugio", Fr. Sergio MENEGONI write about it...

(Fr. Antonio Mariangeli, OMI) Our missionary house for youth began as the home of the prenovitiate (1995). We changed residences until we moved into the present one (1999). At the same time, since the house was located in an Oblate parish, it became the center of youth ministry in the parish. But things change; with the arrival of a new parish pastor, the youth ministry began to take place in the parish buildings and

the prenovitiate, for various reasons, was moved to Chile (2005).

Fathers Sergio MENEGONI and Omar MAZA received an obedience to the house. It was necessary to give it new meaning; it was a house for youth, but we needed to give it an identity, and it is there that a dream became a reality ten years ago. If the charism beats in your heart, the Spirit works marvels. After contacting other programs and discussing the idea with Oblates and laity of the area, Fr. Sergio began to give shape and content to the “Refugio San Eugenio,” which took its first steps there in the month of April 2007.

(Fr. Sergio Menegoni, OMI) Looking back, I can feel the joy of seeing that the parable of the mustard seed which the Lord invited us to consider is a reality. That little seed which God had put into our heart grew and became this tree which has sheltered, protected and sustained many youth over these years.

Our only concern was the desire to respond generously to the call to serve youth; God did the rest. He was light in times of darkness, consolation in times of discouragement, and above all, we learned to recognize him as the proprietor and the Lord of his own work: “El Refugio San Eugenio.”

The experiences that we treasure in our hearts clearly reflect all that has happened in this space. For many youth and adults, there was a before and an after, a beginning of a new journey that filled every day with hope. The key was in learning to let ourselves be loved, in learning to love, and above all, to make us aware of the great love that God has for us and which was reflected in every embrace, in every welcome, in every moment shared away from the problems that many times overwhelm us.

Only words of gratitude arise in me because every young person who came to this place taught us to treasure their struggles, their joys, their pain as something sacred; before our eyes, we had the privilege of lovingly caring for their pursuits, their dreams, their despair. All of them are great people who hope only to have an opportunity to feel alive, to feel valued in a society that often immerses them in a culture of death.

Those who have accompanied the growth of these young people have given their best, their time and talents to build family life. Many were the sacrifices made with much joy and with the certainty that only the gaze of God who is only love can bring to light the potential in the heart of each youth. Building a fraternal community and experiencing that it is possible to live as brothers and sisters is the greatest gift the Holy Spirit has given us. Thank you to all who were and still remain part of this dream of God.

This work, inspired by the charism that St. Eugene de Mazenod bequeathed to us, has been accompanied and supported by the Oblates and by those who share a desire to put themselves at the service of the most abandoned. The arrival of the COMI to our parish and their invaluable contribution at the “Refugio”, beginning this year, has been a true grace of God.

Every youth who comes to the “Refugio” is the visit of God himself; with each of them we see reflected our frailties and greatness, our pursuits and convictions. Our main mission is to embrace their lives with the supernatural love of the Lord and walk with them. He will do his work and as an artist he will remove whatever prevents them from discovering themselves in their dignity and will enrich what we all have: our capacity to love.

HAITI

It's never too late for love

Fr. Fred CHARPENTIER, Director of Foyer Saint Etienne, sends a nice story about two of the residents who found love at an advanced age.

“Love is blind”, they say; what about “love at first sight”? Early this year, in January, we experienced at the Foyer Saint Etienne, our home for elderly poor, in Les Cayes, Haiti, that both these sayings are true. This is the story of the match-making of two of our residents, Ludger Cavaillon (78 years old) and Acélia Joseph (80 years old, and blind).

Ludger Cavaillon could no longer work the fields of his native town of Maniche, where he was a hired hand for years in other people's gardens -- not just because he was going on 76 years of age

and exhausted, but mainly because of a lingering ulcer on his left foot. He never married, so he had very little family left, no close relatives to care for him. One day, someone brought him to Les Cayes for treatment and care at the Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa's Home). And so, the sisters, as usual, gladly took him in and started treatments and care. The sore would not go away. This would be a long term case, so, the Sisters referred him to our Foyer to see what we could do for him. We took Ludger in just before Christmas, 2014, and our infirmary staff immediately started the treatments for his foot. After many long weeks with no improvements, our doctors sent him to a specialist at the general hospital in town. There, Ludger started getting better every day, going back and forth from the Foyer to the hospital till, after many more weeks, his foot got better, and finally completely healed. Ludger was so happy to walk normally again and even be of aid with other residents in wheelchairs, helping them get around when they needed a ride.

In April, 2016, a new resident arrived at the Foyer, thanks to the diligence of a nurse at the local hospital, the same hospital where Ludger had been healed. Acélia Joseph, 80 years old and blind, had been dumped there by strangers and abandoned. She suffered from neglect and definitely needed more care. The nurse caring for Acélia was a friend of Foyer staff and clinic. She asked if we could take Acélia in. We took her in immediately, no questions asked.

Gifted with a bubbly personality and good sense of humor and wit, Acélia soon made friends with everyone. Within weeks she was back on her feet again, but needed her wheelchair to get around as she wanted to. Ludger stepped in and offered

to push her around and then they soon became inseparable best friends... and now.... for the icing on the cake...

In the middle of January this year, the two love birds decided to share with us their "elopement" plans, asking us if this would be possible, since they were having some resistance from Acélia's grandchildren who were opposed to their marriage plans. For Ludger, there were no problems, since the last of his clan had disappeared in October's hurricane Mathew. We assured them that they had every right to decide on their own to get married... eventually. Therefore, they were not eloping. No problem with that for us, but we would have to bring them ourselves to their new address. On January 20, 2107, they both left the Foyer with Yvenel, our Public Relations man, and Miss Casséus, a Foyer staff nurse, en route to Acélia's cousin's house in nearby Cavaillon. From there, they eventually ended up in Acélia's home village of St Georges with the help of their former evangelical pastor, and today, still have plans to get married as soon as their means make this possible.

Yvenel, Marie Marthe and Miss Casséus recently made a follow-up visit to St Georges village and surprised the couple at the evangelical compound. Acélia was just leaving a healing service with Ludger where they were praying for a miracle for her eyesight. They were so happy to see their visitors and could not get over the fact that the Foyer staff went out of its way to locate them and reconnect again. The Foyer visitors assured them that they would be back again, next time maybe for the wedding, God willing. So "love is blind" and "love at first sight" truly happens! Hey, believe me; it's never too late to say YES!

Canada-United States

UNITED STATES

Fulfilling a Chapter mandate

The General Chapter gave our Congregation a mandate for the coming six years: "we have insisted on giving priority to the new faces of the poor whose situation has the greatest claim on salvation understood in an integral sense that only the Gospel can offer."

The concern of the Chapter delegates, reflected in their final document, was guided by three beacons: 1) the calls of the new poor of today; 2) our response in the light of the Gospel; and 3) doing this in the light of our charism.

It is especially for the latter that the General Service of Oblate Studies, in Rome, exists. Under the guidance of Fabio CIARDI, its mission is

to assist the Mazenodian Family to deepen our understanding of the charism and its changing missionary invitations today. The inauguration of the Kusenberger Chair of Oblate Studies is just one of its many expressions.

The initial response of the Kusenberger Chair at Oblate School of Theology is to offer an academic Certificate in Oblate Studies **through the internet**. We are “studying our roots so as to go forward” by are focusing on 5 areas, providing a course on each.

In August 2017, we will offer 1) “Saint Eugene de Mazenod. The historical background, life, and the key aspects of his spirituality, charism and mission.” In future years, other courses will follow: 2) The historical expansion and development of the mission of the Oblate Congregation from 1816 to the present. 3)

The charism and the Constitutions and Rules. 4) Oblate religious life and spirituality, and 5) Oblate mission today.

Initially these courses will be offered **online** in English, with the intention of repeating them in Spanish and French in the future. The goal is to involve as many qualified Oblates and associates from around the Mazenodian world in the presentation of these courses (cf. <https://ost.edu/oblate-studies/>)

The mandate of the General Chapter is “to write a new page of the Gospel with Mazenodian creativity and audacity.” May these studies provide a solid foundation and contribution towards new missionary expressions of this creativity and audacity for the whole Mazenodian Family throughout the world. (Frank SANTUCCI)

Asia-Oceania

INDONESIA

Sons and Daughters of Eugene de Mazenod

Based on one of the items in the new mission of the Oblates in the Indonesian Province (Strengthening the role and service to the youth), a strategy and recommendations have been sent to all Oblate Communities to help them in forming a group of youth called *Putera-Puteri de Mazenod* (Sons and Daughters of Eugene de Mazenod [PPdM]). Actually, such a group has already existed in the Oblate community of Cilacap, Central Java, since 2007.

The formation house in Yogyakarta has begun to form a group of PPdM. On February 18-19, 2017, about fifty youth gathered in our novitiate for a retreat called “One Heart, One Love, Sharing Joyfully with Others”. This event was a programme of initiation for new members of PPdM. They focused on friendship, community, and family, in the spirit of the Youth Association formed by St. Eugene de Mazenod. There was also an evening of recreation to build togetherness and fraternity among them, and games to build their teamwork skills. An Initiation Rite in the river and Holy Eucharist marked the end of the programme.

PPdM is a group of youth, gathered to live the spirituality and charism of St. Eugene de Mazened. The PPdM meets monthly to pray the Oblate Vocation Prayer. It is attended by Oblates, youth, lay Oblates, and sometimes even by nuns. Through PPdM, it is hoped that there will also be a good response to the call to Oblate life. Scholastic Hendrianus WENDI leads the PPdM of Yogyakarta. He was appointed by the Formation District Superior, Fr. Antonius WIDIATMOKO to take charge of this group. (Caraka Team)

THAILAND

A missionary's new adventure

In his annual Easter letter to family and friends, Fr. Domenico RODIGHIERO, an Italian Oblate working in Thailand, writes about his ministry:

As you know, I still work with refugees, especially Pakistanis, and with them, we are in the middle of Passion Week. The situation in Bangkok is very difficult and these "poor christs" cannot find peace. Many of them have been in jail for some years now and life is getting more and more complicated. We help them however we can, but our resources are

limited and we cannot cope with their needs. It is sad to see a father who comes to ask me for a letter of recommendation to a parish in Canada, while his whole family - wife and five children - has been in prison for almost two years. The last time I met him, he was worried because his six-year-old son had been transferred from the women's cell where he was with his mother to that of the men. Certainly these people live Passion Week and with Christ; they share the suffering that comes from the lack of humanity of so many people.

Finally, some news that I want to share with you so that you can follow me in a new stage of my missionary experience. At the beginning of May, I will move to my new parish. When I received the obedience, I went to check the location on Google, but unfortunately this powerful medium also takes no notice of the presence of the village where I am destined. The new community I must serve is located in a small village in the mountains of northern Thailand, about 1400 meters above sea level.

Mankhaw: this is the name of the village that does not appear on any map because it is in the forest and has only a few hundred souls. In the rainy season, which will start soon, it is almost inaccessible because the road is hopeless. Attempts at challenging the weather could cost you a nice head-over-heels flight to the

bottom of the valley. My new commitment is stereotypical of the mission we all have in mind: the missionary lives in the midst of people in a kind of wooden hut, drinking rain water, and sharing the lives of the villagers. He calls them together for Mass by beating on the rim of a car wheel and eats whatever he finds in the forest.

Certainly it is a challenge, the usual challenge of faith. The result of missionary work in this village will always be small because people are too busy trying to survive in order to stop and study catechism; they are too tired to concentrate on the spiritual life; and when evening comes, the light is too dim and the streets too full of mud to go to church. But God always finds the means to build his Kingdom, and perhaps he just needs someone to care for that community as a sign that he does not forget their fatigue, their poverty, their daily suffering. It does not matter if the name of their village does not appear in the major search engines, nor that their existence will go totally unnoticed and their name will not even be written in the registry of the commune; God remembers them because he loves them and for this reason he is sending me to stay with them.

On May 3, I will reach the village and start what will be a new adventure for me; I do not know where it will lead me. I need your prayers so as to be faithful to my vocation and to live in joy this, my new commitment. Happy Easter.

Europe

CENTRAL EUROPEAN PROVINCE Brainstorming for the future with youth

In Nikolauskloster in the West of Germany, on March 24-26, about 35 young people met with Oblates to develop a vision for the Mission with Youth in the Central European Province. There were students from the Oblate school Mariengarden, young adults from the group of lay associates, young people who have been with Oblates in youth groups, etc. for years and youth from the so called OMIGang from the Czech Republic.

The weekend's activities focused on the question: "What do you, young people, expect from the Oblates and what can we do for you – but even more: what can we do together?"

At the beginning of our meeting, St. Eugene, our Founder, was in the focus. He gathered young people, especially the poor, helping them to experience community, faith and direction to their lives. Mission with youth has therefore been a central aspect of our Oblate mission from the very beginning. The General Chapter of 2016 stated that it is still a central aspect for us. After this look at the life of St. Eugene, we started our work:

The first step was for the young people to look at their own life plans and their own experience with the Oblates: where will I be in 1-2 years? What will I need? What steps will I take? What is important for me in the Oblate mission with youth and what am I missing there? What is special about the Oblate mission and what could my contribution be?

But we also stepped outside to meet others. In small groups, we went to shopping malls, walking areas and to other places nearby where there were many people. First we tried to watch young people and then also to ask them: What are they expecting from life? From faith? From the church?

This experience led us to the final step of this weekend – asking ourselves what we, young people and Oblates together, can do concretely? And concrete ideas there were: some are going to meet regularly in the “Mario Borzaga” community in Fulda; others are going to develop some new program for the Oblate mission at the Oblate school; others are thinking about opening a meeting point Café in Pilsen, Czech Republic, and even more...

The weekend was a kind of “brainstorming” about the future. We thought and planned together – but we also experienced that the Holy Spirit sometimes leads us to new perspectives. Therefore it was mainly a first step to a new “Mission with youth” in our province.

Some personal experiences:

During Saturday afternoon we went to the cities around us in small groups. We had three tasks: to watch people, to talk to them and to offer something -- a prayer, a blessing, a hug or anything else. Since I am proficient with the German language, I was a bit shy. But I was impressed by my companions, Sali and Christian, and at their joy going out to the people. (Jan Kastl)

It was a great weekend together with a family. It was full of work, sharing, joy and finding new passion for the mission. When we left for our journey home, I had a big feeling of responsibility. The fact, that we are missionaries together with the Oblates can't leave us untouched. I am very thankful that we could experience this together, that we young people can be real missionaries and take part in the mission of the Oblates and that they really count on us. (Kateřina Zahradníčková)

Joy, enthusiasm and family: these three words express what we experienced throughout this weekend. I had already gone there with great joy,, but after these days it is even bigger. Passion for

the mission – that could be experienced in every moment, during every activity, in every second and in every one of us. Usually I would rather look at the past and live in the present – but here we experienced and lived the future. What we did allowed hope to grow in me and now I feel the responsibility to keep this hope and the energy from this weekend and pass it on to others. The word “family” expresses best what this weekend meant to me. The community, the common goal, the decisiveness and the passion for the mission brought us together to be one big international Oblate family. (Salome Mecová)

POLAND

A new missionary website

Since Mission Sunday, October 23, 2016, the new missionary website of the Oblates' Polish Province has been open. Its first six months of activity have confirmed that it is a site that is truly needed.

“An average of about 85,000-100,000 users regularly read <http://misyjne.pl/>, some of whom visit the site several times a day. The subjects it covers attract notice and cause internet users to readily return to us. It is well rated by its audience and is among the top five Catholic portals in Poland. We would like to see it in third place by the end of the year,” says Mr. Michał Józwiak, who is responsible for the site.

The www.misyjne.pl portal was started in order to evangelize with reliable information about the Church, society, culture, and religions. Its task is to build a society of persons and communities interested in the missions, particularly the Oblate missions, as well as the persecution of Christians. Missionaries from the furthest corners of the world publish blogs on the site. They share their own observations and reflections, but most of all they show the behind-the-scenes work in the missions. They share poignant photographs and stories. Also published are opinions of theologians, people of culture and of science.

“The portal evolved from our periodical “Misyjne Drogi” (Missionary Way), which has a current circulation of about 25,000 and which is available by subscription in 850 parishes, secular

stores and kiosks, and as of this year, on e-book readers. We are aware that it was not reaching young and middle-aged people, who generally do not use print media as much, and from that came the idea to reach out with evangelization and information in this way,” says Fr. Marcin WRZOS, editor-in-chief of the periodical and of the site, “I must say that the site was able to come into being thanks to the good will of the province’s administration.”

The editorial office of misyjne.pl and of “Misyjne Drogi” also conducts a program known as “mission adoption” which includes 500 children from schools in Madagascar, Bangladesh, Nepal, and India. Thanks to their adoptive parents these pupils are guaranteed their tuition, school uniforms, necessary equipment, and medical care. It is constructive aid. Thanks to it they will have the prospect of getting better jobs, and therefore significantly higher salaries.

The specific editorial team for the periodical and the site is made up of Oblates: Marcin WRZOS (editor-in-chief, journalist); Błażej MIELCAREK (graphic designer); Wojciech KLUJ (consultant for missiology and religious studies); Marek SWAT (circulation); as well as laity: Michał Józwiak (responsible for the site, journalist); Aleksander Barszczewski (journalist, video material); Kinga Baszczuk (proofreader, journalist); Sandra Sekowska (accounting); Zofia Kędziora (journalist, radio material); Joanna Michalak (administration office); Łukasz Tadyszak (social campaigns); Magdalena Zarate Rios (journalist); as well as Fr. Paweł Kucia (journalist). Twelve Oblates cooperate permanently with the periodical and site, recording bible meditation videos, in addition to one cartoonist, as well as approximately 45 journalists of whom almost all are volunteer workers. It is a delight to have the presence of these committed lay people.

The portal and periodical are present on the most popular social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Snapchat, thanks to which ideas about the mission and information reach readers even more quickly. Every person with a mission will find something of interest here.

ITALY

Celebrating the Laotian Martyrs

Blessed Mario BORZAGA, beatified along with 16 other Martyrs of Laos on December 11, 2016, has a special place in the hearts of the diocese of his birth and among his fellow Italian Oblates and their associates. For this reason, the Church of Trent and the Oblates held a two-day festival honoring Blessed Mario’s memory, together with the other martyrs and especially, Blessed Mario’s catechist, Blessed Paul Thoj Xyooj, who was murdered along with him.

In his blog, (<http://fabiociardi.blogspot.it>) Fr. Fabio CIARDI describes some of the events of the weekend of April 29-30, 2017:

The celebration began already on Saturday morning, April 29, as soon as we got on the train in Rome and met the first of the people from Southern Italy on their way to Trent. In the afternoon, on the streets of the city, we met other friends. We had come to celebrate our martyrs of Laos, especially Father Mario, a native of Trent, and his catechist, Paul. In the evening for the prayer vigil, we were 400 members of the Oblate family coming from all of Italy, from Palermo and Messina all the way to Aosta and Trieste, passing through Sardinia, Naples and Florence. No one was left out! This time, participation was not organized, but the word had passed by word of mouth, and here we were, together again.

I visited Mario’s home with a small group of friends; Lucia told about her brother, about when he was still a child; about the first difficult months when she would accompany him to the nursery school; and about when he left for the seminary at the age of 11. It is she who has kept alive his memory, transcribed his diaries, and worked for the founding of the association “Friends of Father Mario.” Mario’s piano is still there in the house, silent now like a relic. His Oblate crucifix is ready in a clear box, to be given to the bishop tomorrow so that it can be displayed in the cathedral.

Sunday morning, April 30, was the most powerful moment of the entire celebration. We heard the testimony of companions of Father Mario Borzaga, both hilarious and touching episodes.

Bishop STACCIOLI, Father Gigi SION, his sister and his seminary companions brought to life for us a Mario who was fully human, a poet, a musician, a contemplative and a mystic. Their stories alternated with readings from his diary, a video with interviews, and images taken from his story. Among them were the first person baptized by Father Mario; some of them knew him personally and others through stories of their parents. They are the loveliest fruits of the martyrdom of Father Mario..

In the early afternoon, there was a solemn Mass at the cathedral, packed as never before. All

the priests of the diocese as well as about 30 Oblates were there. Mario was baptized in the cathedral; he received his First Communion there and celebrated there his First Mass. Today, the diocese recognizes him as its very own son.

Later, there was a dramatic and musical presentation which brought out his life and his strong spirituality. We were touched, especially by the conclusion, with his dark night of the soul, the tragic death shared by his catechist -- the wordless cry that ended his life, the same "loud cry" with which Jesus died on the cross.

Africa-Madagascar

NATAL, SOUTH AFRICA

Bishop Barry Wood, O.M.I.: 1942-2017

Bishop Barry WOOD, the Auxiliary of the Archdiocese of Durban, died on May 2, 2017, at a hospital in Durban.

Born on 13 June 1942, in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, he professed his first vows as an Oblate in 1962. After his priestly ordination in 1968, he worked in various parishes and in formation ministry (Novice Master, Scholasticate Superior). He served as Provincial of the Natal Province from 1992-1998. In 2006, he was ordained as the Auxiliary Bishop of Durban by Wilfrid Cardinal Napier, OFM.

At the end of the recent Oblate Bicentenary, he wrote in the Catholic periodical, *The Southern Cross*, about his devotion to the Mother of God: "Through my priestly ministry, I have always felt that I have been accompanied by Mary, walking hand in hand with her, hearing her say to me, as she said to the wedding stewards at Cana: 'Do whatever Jesus tells you!'"

In announcing the bishop's death to Father General, the Provincial of the Natal Province, Fr. Vusumuzi MAZIBUKO wrote: "We are proud to have had an Oblate Brother like him in the province serving the Church. He will be greatly missed."

Anniversaries -- June 2017

70 Years of priesthood

1947/02/06	07348	Fr. Patrick Healy	United States
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65 Years of priesthood

1952/02/06	08196	Fr. William McSweeney	United States
1952/07/06	08183	Fr. Paul Hurtubise	Notre-Dame-du-Cap
1952/12/06	08327	Fr. Adhemar Deveau	United States
1952/15/06	08341	Fr. Laurent Alarie	Lacombe
1952/22/06	08394	Fr. Anthony Carroll	Anglo-Irish
1952/22/06	08393	Fr. Peter McCluskey	Anglo-Irish
1952/29/06	08437	Fr. Virgilio Baratto	Lacombe

60 Years of priesthood

1957/01/06	09014	Fr. Gerard Brunet	United States
1957/01/06	09018	Fr. William Davis	United States
1957/01/06	09019	Fr. Michael Levy	United States
1957/01/06	09009	Fr. James Miller	United States
1957/01/06	09016	Fr. Galeb Mocarzel	United States
1957/08/06	09092	Fr. Guido Blanchette	Argentina-Chile
1957/08/06	09338	Fr. Gerald Flater	United States
1957/08/06	09090	Fr. Gérard Laprise	Notre-Dame-du-Cap
1957/08/06	09342	Fr. James Mac Gee	United States
1957/15/06	08877	Fr. Guy Jalbert	Notre-Dame-du-Cap
1957/15/06	09114	Fr. Lawrence Mac Lennan	Lacombe
1957/23/06	09827	Fr. Henri Méolle	France

50 Years of religious life

1967/13/06	11875	Fr. Kenneth Hannon	United States
1967/13/06	12034	Fr. Robert Wright	United States
1967/15/06	11841	Fr. Antero Berboso	Bolivie
1967/15/06	11842	Fr. Eliseo Mercado	Philippines

50 Years of priesthood

1967/17/06	11124	Fr. John Collet	United States
1967/24/06	11079	Fr. Théodore Dumont	Notre-Dame-du-Cap
1967/24/06	11157	Fr. Teodor Jochem	Poland
1967/24/06	11089	Fr. Gerardo Le Strat	Lacombe
1967/24/06	08900	Fr. Joachim Lizon	Poland

25 Years of priesthood

1992/04/06	12968	Fr. Prudencio O. Alviar	Philippines
1992/20/06	13050	Fr. Piotr Bielewicz	Poland
1992/20/06	13037	Fr. Mirosław K. Biernacki	Poland
1992/20/06	13042	Fr. Franciszek J. Bok	Poland
1992/20/06	13046	Fr. Alfred Grzempa	Assumption
1992/20/06	13051	Fr. Henryk Kaminski	Poland
1992/20/06	13034	Msgr. Jan Kot	Brazil
1992/20/06	13107	Fr. Mariusz Legiezyński	Poland
1992/20/06	13085	Fr. Gregory Zaba Mbanjwa	Natal
1992/20/06	13043	Fr. Maciej Michalski	General Admin.
1992/20/06	13045	Fr. Jacek Nosowicz	Assumption
1992/20/06	13041	Fr. Marek Ochlak	Poland
1992/20/06	13047	Fr. Piotr Piasecki	Poland
1992/20/06	13089	Fr. Wojciech Popielewski	General Admin.
1992/20/06	13038	Fr. Wiesław Szatanski	Lacombe
1992/20/06	13035	Fr. Jacek J. Tomiczek	Poland
1992/20/06	13044	Fr. Kazimierz Tyberski	Poland
1992/27/06	13123	Fr. Ghislain Tremblay	Notre-Dame-du-Cap
1992/28/06	12985	Fr. Helmut Haagen	Central European

Suffrages for our Deceased

No. 29-32

Name	Prov./Del.	Born	Died at	Date
Bro. Misael Prado Valles	Mediterranean	02/11/1932	Madrid	30/04/2017
Bishop Barry Wood	Natal	13/06/1942	Durban	02/05/2017
Fr. Kees NIJSTEN	Belgium/Holland	26/01/1920	Nijmegen	02/05/2017
Fr. James Dudley Perera	Colombo	28/11/1937	Kohuwela	03/05/2017

“They are before God, bearing the sign, the kind of character proper to our Institute, the vows common to all its members, the firm habit of the same virtues. We are linked to them by the bonds of a special charity. They are still our brothers and we are theirs. They now live in our mother-house, our main residence. The prayers and the love they retain for us will one day draw us to them and we shall live in our place of rest together with them.” (Letter of Founder to Fr. Courtès, 22 July 1828)

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