

National Oblate Youth Encounter Reflection

From 10-13th January 65 young people and a number of Oblates gathered for the 13th National Oblate Youth Encounter. The theme for this year's encounter was "Leave nothing undared," focusing on the Oblate charism.



Rosies Victoria Charity Golf Day

On Friday April 13, the St John Vianney's Parish Golf Club is hosting the annual Rosies Charity Golf Day. An opportunity to unite the De Mazenod Family, bringing together people from Oblate Parishes, Rosies, Oblate Youth Australia, Mazenod College and MAMI supporters together for a wonderful day of golf, plenty of fun and supporting a worthy cause adding to a special fund to purchase a new Rosies van.

The golf day will be held at Amstel (Ranfurlie) Cranbourne Golf Course, rated number 60 in Australia. Everyone is welcome to join in, male or female, handicapped or non-handicapped. At this stage put the date in your diary, call Rosies (9795 5077) to register your interest or visit www.oblates.com.au for more information.



Summer Rosies Victoria

Many of us can identify with life getting a little crazy around Christmas time, well I'm no different. A week before December 24 I develop an obsession with the weather, stalking weather web sites, anxious to know if there'll be sunshine or rain on Christmas eve.. The reason for my unusual behaviour? The Rosies Victoria, Christmas Eve Barbeque. As has now become tradition, each year Rosies holds a barbeque on Christmas Eve, along the banks of the Yarra River, for our "Friends on the Street." While it certainly wouldn't have been the first time that we held a barbeque in the rain, we were fortunate to be blessed with a dry and pleasant evening.

Thanks to the support of both past and current volunteers, and with a little help from Santa Clause, Rosies was able to participate in the true meaning of Christmas, being in community and sharing friendship.

During the first week of January, Rosies conducts a special program known as Summer Rosies. During this week, our volunteers attended the Collingwood Housing Estate to meet and interact with the children and young people from the area. Games of basketball and cricket were well received, so too were the cold water and cordial we provided. During the evenings Rosies once again took to the banks of the Yarra, where we joined our "friends on the street" for a meal and a chat.

My thanks go to the volunteers who participated in the Christmas Eve barbeque and Summer Rosies, for their support and generosity and for making both activities such a great success.

Lesley Eksteen



Indonesia Age of Miracles ...



The Oblates received the large area of Cengkareng, Jakarta Indonesia, in 1975 with Fr Pat Moroney OMI as the priest in charge. At that time it was still a small outstation from the parish of Tangerang. The Catholic population at that stage consisted of several hundred families spread out over the vast parish.

This area has exploded with many real estate housing developments in the last 20 years and it is still experiencing development as Jakarta and the surrounding area expands to nearly 20 million people. The Archdiocese of Jakarta now has 64 parishes and now Trinity parish, Cengkareng, has over 20,000 Catholics.

The main parish church, Trinity church was completed several months after the visit of Pope John Paul II in November 1989. The day after the church's blessing, 21 February 1990 it was immediately used for the ordination of our third Indonesian Oblate., Fr. F.X. Sudirman OMI.

Many still remember the beautiful new church right beside the local rubbish tip. Thank God those days have gone and the rubbish tip has been replaced by an elegant housing estate.

The parish with so many Catholics has needed a second church with the plan for a second parish. The land was bought in 1998 but the building of a church in Indonesia takes a long time because of many hidden difficulties, namely getting permission from the local government as well as the local people.

The people in the parish didn't just sit and wait and do nothing. No - they built a medium sized church, St Vincent Pallotti church with a hall and presbytery in the outer section of the parish near the airport and was completed in August 2007.

All things come to those who wait patiently and so we have seen a miracle happen before our eyes. Obstacles which were so unmovable before, now just seemed to have dropped by the wayside. The new St. Mary Immaculate church has been completed and officially opened by the Governor of Jakarta on September 8, 2012.

The miracle of the presence of this new church is a living testimony of the strong faith and unbelievable generosity of the Catholic faithful of the parish and of the whole Archdiocese.

Fr Peter Subagyo Stoll OMI
Current Parish Priest.

AROUND THE PROVINCE



Frs John McGinty, Kevin Davin, James Jeyachandran and Peter Stoll



New Provincial and Council, Frs John McGinty, Peter Daly, Leo Mifsud and Christian Fini (Absent - Fr Tony Maher)



December 16th marked the 50th anniversary of the opening of St Mary's Star of the Sea in Sorrento, Victoria. Parish priest Fr Kevin Davine OMI was joined by Auxiliary Bishop, Rev Peter Elliot, Oblate Provincial, Fr Harry Dyer OMI and assistant priests Fr John Hannah OMI and Fr Bill Ousley OMI to celebrate mass in front of a capacity congregation.



Oblates participating in National Oblate Youth Encounter. Frs L. Mifsud, J. Sherman, S. Plonka, M. Twigg, H. Dyer, M. Edwards, C. Fini and A. Chen

De Mazenod Retreat Dates

Saturday 20th April, at St David's Parish, Tea Tree Gully, SA, starting with 9:15am Parish Mass and concluding at 12:30.

Saturday 27th April, at St Eugene's Parish, Burpengary, QLD, starting with 9:00am Parish Mass and concluding at 12:30.

All retreats will start with the Saturday morning Mass and finish before lunch. More information will be available in parish bulletins and online. Information regarding retreats in Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia will be announced in future MAMI newsletters.

Important Information

- Rosies Victoria Charity Golf Day, 13th April.
- De Mazenod Family Fundraising Mass and Dinner, Victoria – 29th June, 2013
- Welcome new members from the January Appeal in Sorrento and Rye. Thank you to our regular donors for their incredible generosity during our summer appeal.
- 50th Anniversary of St Mary's Seminary occurs on Sunday 4th August, there will be some celebrations to mark this occasion details will be out in the May Newsletter.
- International Oblate Youth Encounter 2008, five year reunion will be held in conjunction with the De Mazenod Family Fundraising Mass and Dinner on the 29th June, 2013.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

- Fr Oswald Firth OMI
Formation Superior, 1st Jan—1 year
- Fr Christian Fini OMI
Superior of St Mary's Community
1st Jan—3 years
- Fr John Sebastian Ramesh OMI
– Reappointed Chaplain to the
University Campus of Notre Dame,
Fremantle, 2013.

Things to Pray for

- February 25–28th
Provincial Council
- February
AORC & Joint Session with
Central Government, Thailand



Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate

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M.A.M.I.

Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate

Message from New Provincial

On Friday 8th February Fr. Harry Dyer, the outgoing Provincial of the Australian Province shared a letter from the Superior General, appointing me as the new Australian Provincial.

As I take over the role of Provincial, I do so with a sense of gratitude to all the Oblates whom I have known and those Australian Oblates who have built and shaped this province.

I do not believe that any Provincial is simply a sentinel for the present but the custodian of the heritage left to us by those who have laboured here before us; the giants on whose shoulders we ride.

This heritage began with St. Eugene's own conversion, life and ministry, and his vision to bring the love of God into the lives of the most abandoned.

It was not long after the Founder's death in 1894 the first Oblates came to our Western shores with the same fire in their hearts, having left their homeland and family to preach the Gospel and administer the love of God through the Sacraments for over a hundred years, quietly working among Oblate-minded people who share in our Charism.

I also see the role of Provincial as being in constant dialogue with the Oblates of the Province of Australia, our delegation in China and assisting with the works we have undertaken. This dialogue is meant to collect our shared experiences and gathered wisdom in order to discern the needs of the ministry and the individuals who make up the province.

Far beyond our own region of Asia/Oceania, there are also other needs which we are often called upon to give assistance. Mostly, our assistance is financial as we would find it most difficult to contribute personnel. However, as with the example of the Oblates who in the 1960s we sent as missionaries to Indonesia, we have made a great contribution.

But while we struggle with our own 'vocation shortage,' we continue to put our trust in the Lord who has called us to 'take the Gospel to the nations' and continue

to send men to ministries in Kenya, Zimbabwe and General Administration.

Through this exchange of personnel, we continue to remember our beginnings and keep alive our sense of World Mission. This 'internationality' of the congregation now sees other Oblate provinces continue to send us men of considerable experience in the mission field, to maintain and enrich our own part of the Province.

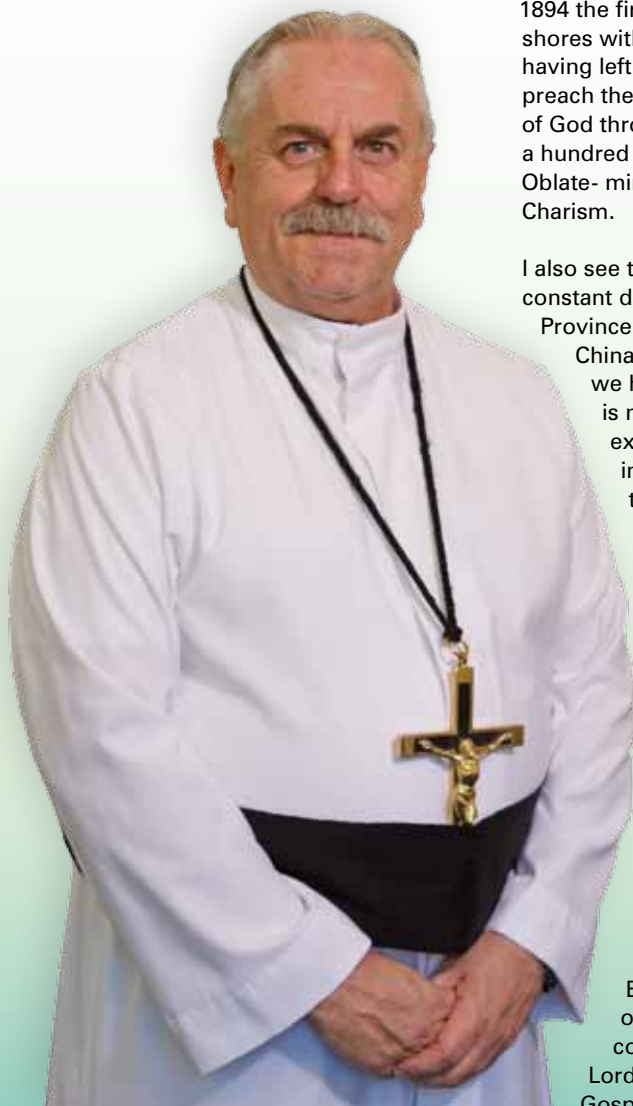
Of course not all of us are called to go work in foreign countries but by virtue of our Vows as Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, all of us are called to do our utmost to support these missions in any way we can.

We also honour and acknowledge the people who are showing us how, through generosity and support for our missions, local and abroad, one becomes an authentic missionary. These are the mums and dads and good people of God who, regardless of their own needs to provide for their own families, for decades have provided us with all the essentials we need to carry on our ministries. I think their faith is truly inspirational.

As Oblates we are called to form and live in community. It is for this reason that we have left our homes and our families. It is also for this reason that we have put aside personal ambition in preference for the growth of our cherished congregation and to take up the call of St. Eugene de Mazenod to practice charity among ourselves and zeal for the salvation of souls.

But above all, I know that the most important task that I face is to pray constantly for my brother Oblates and those who share our Oblate spirit. It is only through prayer and community that I will be able to grasp what the Provincial's role truly is.

Fr Leo Mifsud OMI





MAMI

Director's Update

Fr Christian Fini OMI director of MAMI

The New Year has commenced with some surprising news in the Church with the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI -well-timed I think during the Year of Faith, which he launched in October 2012 finishing November 2013. What a courageous act of leadership, wisdom and humility to break a 600 year tradition. So, in faith and trust we pray that God's Providence will give us a Pope to take up Pope Benedict's work and lead us into the future.

The Year of Faith also offers us the opportunity to reflect on what it means to be a person of faith. This call to faith is to be lived out through the distinctive Oblate Charism, given to us by St Eugene De Mazenod.

In the light of this challenge this year's Mazenod Reflection written by Fr Frank will focus on the Oblate Charism and the year of faith, a half day De Mazenod retreat will be held in each state reflecting on the Oblate Charism and, the immersion experience in China will have a particular focus. It is my hope that these three efforts will lead into a MAMI pilgrimage in 2014 to the Holy Land, the cradle of our faith, on to France, the birth place of our Charism and finishing in Rome, the heart of our church. More information and dates about the pilgrimage will be available in the next MAMI newsletter.

The De Mazenod Retreats will be held on the Saturday of each MAMI Appeal weekend held throughout the country but open to all supporters. The first retreat will be held in South Australia at St David's, Tea Tree Gully, on Saturday 20th April and the following weekend in St Eugene's Burpengary on Saturday 27th April, all retreats will start with the Saturday morning Mass and finish before lunch. More information will be available in parish bulletins and online. Information regarding retreats in Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia will be announced in future MAMI newsletters.

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to thank Fr Harry Dyer OMI, former Provincial, for his support to MAMI over the last six years and officially congratulate Fr Leo Mifsud, on his instalment as Australian Provincial on February 8.

In November we received many requests for prayers and special Masses were offered for these intentions during the Novena period.

Once again the Christmas Card appeal has been a great success, receipts are being processed and will be sent out shortly. Thank you for all your support and prayers and for your assistance with the missionary works of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

God Bless
Fr Christian Fini OMI

DMFFMD invitation



De Mazenod Family Fundraising Mass & Dinner will be held in Victoria on Saturday 29th June, an opportunity to bring together the De Mazenod family in Victoria, which includes Victorian Parishes (Sunshine, Springvale North, Moe & Sorrento), MAMI Supporters, Mazenod College Victoria, Oblate Youth Australia and Rosies Vic for a night of faith, fun and fundraising. Money raised will be shared between the Partners in Mission project that supports an orphanage in Vietnam and Rosies Victoria. You are invited to book tickets or a table (10 per table) by contacting the MAMI Office (03) 9805 8888, Rosies Office (03) 9795 5077 or online at www.oblates.com.au/mami

Date: Saturday 29th June

Mass details: 6pm

@ St John Vianney's Church,
23 Police Rd, Mulgrave
(Melways Ref: 80 B4)

Dinner details: 7.30pm-12am

@ the Mulgrave Country Club,
Cnr Wellington Rd & Jells Rd, Wheelers Hill. \$60 per ticket, 3 course meal with soft drinks (Alcohol at bar prices),

Dress: Semi formal

RSVP for the dinner is essential by Monday 17th June 2013.

Mazenod Reflection

The Year of Faith, Oct 2012 to Nov 2013, is "intended to contribute to a renewed conversion to the Lord Jesus and to the rediscovery of faith, so that the members of the Church will be credible and joy-filled witnesses to the risen Lord, capable of leading those many people who are seeking it to the doors of faith." (Year of Faith Guidelines)

– DO ALL IN YOUR POWER, BY WORD AND EXAMPLE, TO REKINDLE THE FLAME OF FAITH

If it were possible to push the timeline forward and bring Eugene de Mazenod and his first companions two centuries later, they would be grinning with delight at Pope Benedict's initiative of the Year of Faith. In fact, Eugene and the first Oblates came into existence precisely because of a similar initiative by a Pope two hundred years ago.

Between 1789 and 1814 the Church had been ravaged in France by the Revolution and Napoleon. Countless churches had been destroyed, thousands of priests and religious had been killed or had gone into hiding and the practice of religion had been discouraged. In his attempts to control the Church, Napoleon even had

the Pope arrested and brought to France. Consequently, it was the faith of the people that suffered.

When the fury of the revolution had calmed and it became clear that the world had changed radically and that some of the ideals that emerged were powerful and good (like the declaration of the Rights of Man, for example). The problem was that these ideals were taking the place of God and religion in people's minds and affected a whole generation of people. For some 25 years children had been growing up without a knowledge and practice of religion and with no proper support system to help them integrate everything into a faith vision.

Eugene described this situation, using the imagery of the Church as a mother:

The Church, that glorious inheritance purchased by Christ the Saviour at the cost of his own blood, has in our days been cruelly ravaged. The beloved spouse of God's only begotten Son is torn with anguish as she mourns the shameful defection of the children she herself bore.

Once Napoleon had been deposed, in 1814-1815, it became possible to rectify the situation. The Pope asked for a renewal of faith in France, a new evangelization, and called for missionaries to go throughout France and to renew the faith of the people

who had grown apart. Eugene recognized this and wrote:

Faced with such a deplorable situation, the Church earnestly appeals to the ministers whom she herself enrolled in the cause of her divine Spouse, to do all in their power, by word and example, to rekindle the flame of faith that has all but died in the hearts of so many of her children.

His immediate response was to bring the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate into existence:

The sight of these evils has so touched the hearts of certain priests, zealous for the glory of God, men with an ardent love for the Church, that they are willing to give their lives, if need be, for the salvation of souls.

Today the situation of the faith is different, but equally dramatic. Hence Pope Benedict's called for a Year of Faith. The Oblates and all the members of the Mazenodian Family are invited to respond by helping people to rediscover and come to a deeper knowledge of their faith so as to make a more coherent commitment to God and to spreading the values of the Kingdom of God in our world.

Fr Frank Santucci OMI

50th Anniversary Fr Donal Madigan OMI

On 24th February, Fr Donal Madigan, celebrated an incredible milestone – 50 years of ordination to the priesthood as an Oblate of Mary Immaculate.

Fr Donal was born in Inchicore, Dublin in 1937, walking distance from the Oblate Provincial House, the beautiful Church of Mary Immaculate all part of the Oblate presence in Inchicore. After completing his primary and secondary education he entered the Novitiate in 1956 and was ordained in 1963. He received his first appointment from the Superior General to the Australia Province. His first year in Australia was spent on the Mission and Retreat staff at Camberwell followed by appointments as assistant parish priest at St John Vianney's, Mulgrave, St Kieran's, Moe, and St Patrick's, Fremantle, which was the beginning of many years of pastoral care through parish ministry throughout the province bring much experience and his ever present human touch to the task. Donal's loveable, charming and warm nature made him a popular man wherever he has been appointed.

40th Anniversary Fr John Wotherspoon OMI

Please join us in thanking God for Fr John David Wotherspoon OMI. On the 19th February, we celebrate the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood at St Patrick's Cathedral. He was ordained in Melbourne in 1973, during the Eucharistic Congress.

John was born in Brisbane on October 16, 1946, to David and Aisla Wotherspoon, the first of two sons. He and his younger brother, Peter, some seven years later, welcomed my younger brother, Harold and I to Guardian Angels' Parish School, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, in the bayside suburb of Wynnum. John and I were classmates from Year 1 until we were both enrolled by our parents at Villanova College, Coorparoo, East Brisbane, conducted by the Augustinian Fathers, in Year 4, in 1956. Then, we were both foundation pupils in Year 6 at the first boys' college conducted by the Missionary Oblates - Iona at Lindum, Queensland, from 1958 – 64.

Enthusiasm for the Church's mission in the world was kindled in John from those early

Fr Donal received his first appointment as Parish Priest to St Kieran's, Moe, 1973, and then in 1974 he was appointed as Parish Priest to St Mary's Star of the Sea, Sorrento. In 1981, Fr Donal, was transferred to the Parish in Massey Auckland, New Zealand, as assistant and a year later as Parish Priest.

After New Zealand, Fr Donal, returned to a young emerging parish of Mary Immaculate, Eagle Vale. I recalled him recounting his reaction to his appointment. "I didn't even know where it was. I have heard of Eagle Junction but Eagle Vale?" Yet with great generosity and passion he took on this large young parish with its own special challenges and during his six years he became the first official Parish Priest. When his time was up he packed his bags again and, after goodbyes, took up his new appointment as Parish Priest of Lesmurdie in Western Australia. During his last years at Lesmurdie he suffered much sickness that necessitated a number of serious operations. Thankfully he overcame these setbacks and during 2002 he was well enough for temporary appointments returning to Eagle Vale, Sefton and Sorrento for some months before his last appointment as Parish Priest to Sefton.

With the absence of the pressures and responsibilities that come with Parish Priest seemed to give him a new lease on life doing what he loved most, serving the people of God and loving them.

days. He was often showing me copies of missionary periodicals, like 'The Far East' and 'The Word' and when the Oblates introduced us to their publication – 'The Immaculate' we had a common focus. As has been documented on the occasion of his Silver Anniversary, there was a spirited singlemindedness in his activity. It was shown during our Novitiate Year at St Joseph's, Lovely Banks, Geelong (1965) and through our seven years of training for religious life and Priesthood at St Mary's Seminary, Mulgrave. Through all the challenges of our years in formation, in the heady days of renewal following the Second Vatican Council, he displayed courage and determination, encouraging us all to persevere.

His first appointment was to Mazenod College, Mulgrave. He was Year 9 Coordinator from 1973-75. Again, he warmly welcomed me to the community when I arrived there in 1974. In 1976, he moved back up to Iona College to teach there from 1976 – 80 and again in 1984, after working in parish ministry with Fr Con Campbell OMI at St Kieran's, Moe from 1981 -83. In 1983, he went over to Mazenod College, Lesmurdie, WA to teach there. His efforts to "Make the proclamation of the Good News your life's work in thoroughgoing service" (St Paul to Timothy – quoted on John's ordination card) were warmly appreciated by all.

There was a map of South-East Asia and Australasia in the background on that ordination card. On January 14, 1985, John arrived in Hong Kong, joining the Filipino Province of the Missionary Oblates. He began to study Cantonese while assisting with the work in Notre Dame Parish and

In 2010, Fr Donal accepted a challenging appointment, for someone who dislikes the heat, to the hot and humid climate of Queensland as the Assistant Parish Priest of St Eugene's Burpengary. Despite what mother nature could throw at him he loved the people and their affection for him was indeed warm, but not humid. In 2012, he took up his latest appointment and continues to minister at Eagle Vale, NSW.

It is unfortunate that 50 years of faith and service of God's people is reduced to dates, places and positions held but those of us who know Fr Donal or have lived with him, can testify to a holy but human life. I would like to recognise three great loves that guided and governed him through the last fifty years; a passionate love for priesthood, compassion and love for the people and an attentive care for his community and his brother Oblates.

Donal's warm and charming character makes him an approachable person for people of all ages. The Oblates have an unofficial motto "always close to the people" which captures something of the founders', St Eugene de Mazenod, own character and vision, this has been lived out in faith by Fr Donal over the last 50 year of service to the Church.

We thank Fr Donal for the gift he has been to the Australian Province, the Church in Australia and in the lives of many of us.

Fr Fr Christian Fini OMI

Schools in Kowloon. The OMI mission to China was handed over to the Australian Province in 1991. From 1988-94, John continued to serve as a pastor at Notre Dame. In 1995, he was appointed a pastor of Lantau parish, near the new Hong Kong Airport.

In 2001, he was allowed to go to Zhaoqing in mainland China as an English teacher at the Canadian American School, which gave him the opportunity to work among the very poor – "the invisible people" in the Zhaoqing District. These families, forced to leave their native regions to seek a living working in the developing cities, were denied access to any educational or welfare facilities. Labouring there until 2008, John was unfortunately forced to leave the mainland due to a combination of local issues and a stricter national policy about foreigners.

Disappointed but not deterred, from 2009 to date, he has continued to work among the poor and most abandoned in Hong Kong. He visits the prisons there 6 days a week and helps with parish Masses on Sundays. His choice of 'Computer Programming' as one of his Arts subjects at Monash University back in 1966, was the beginning of a lifelong effective use of this form of communications media. You can visit a photographic history of his life in China at <http://www.china8.org/photo.html>

I'm sure, along with our thanks to God for all the good work, begun in John 40 years ago, we would ask for his continued good health and strength in his priestly ministry. Vivat! Vivat multos annos! Congratulations!

Fr William Ousley OMI

Adieu to Fr Con Campbell OMI



After a remarkable 48 years working in the Australian Province, Fr Con Campbell OMI has decided to remain in Ireland following a sudden decline in his health during a recent visit home to his family. Too unwell to travel, the Provincial of the Anglo-Irish Province has kindly offered Fr Campbell permanent accommodation at the Oblate House in Inchicore where he can be close to his family.

Born in 1937 in Cloghan Co., Donegal, Fr Cornelius Campbell OMI was ordained in February 1964 at Piltown, Kilkenny. Later that same year, he arrived at the Oblate Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea at Sorrento in Victoria. During the past 48 years of his ministry, Fr Campbell has worked in Oblate parishes at Moe, North Melbourne and Corio in Victoria, Kalunga in Queensland and Dernancourt in South Australia. Since 2005, he has been based at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Sefton, New South Wales where he has worked as both Parish Priest and Assistant Priest. Fr Campbell also spent more than 20 years in total at different Oblate parishes in New Zealand.

We thank Fr Con for his generosity and service to the Australian Province and wish to advise that Fr Con can be contacted via his email address: ccampbell@oblates.com.au

We wish Fr Con all the very best as he undertakes this new stage of his life's journey.

China Immersion Experience – May 2013

The Oblates are offering the opportunity to visit the China Mission for 11 days, from 20–31 May 2013. The itinerary includes working with the babies and young children of the orphanage, working in the Oblate School and seeing the sights of Beijing. The cost will be \$1000 per person shared and \$1200 per person single room and includes: meals, basic hotel accommodation, transport, and some tourist activities. There will be a preparation and orientation program before departure. Travel arrangements, travel insurance, Visa and Police Check will be the responsibility of each participant, with assistance from the MAMI Office. There are 12 positions available if you would like to secure a position you may contact the MAMI office 9805 8888 or pim@oblates.com.au. Participants must be over 18, independent and in good health (able to manage stairs).



Lenten Appeal – Giving by going without for a month

Dear Friends,

After the success and positive feedback from last year's Lenten appeal why not try it again with a new initiative for you to support through prayer and where possible in practical ways.

Knowing that MAMI Supporters are already very generous it is difficult to ask for something above your normal incredible generosity.

Over Lent I invite you to pray for this particular mission, De Mazenod International Exchange School an important initiative which provides a permanent Oblate Ministry in the North of China, contact with locals and support for China Little Flower Orphanage. Volunteers and Partners in Mission support this important ministry but it lacks adequate resources. The focus of this year's Lenten Appeal will be to support the establishment of this

important work in China. More information about the different ways to get involved is on the back of the flyer.

If you can't volunteer, you might like to support the mission by giving up two purchased coffees a week for a month? Only 500 people need to do this, saving around \$6 a week and raise \$24 for the month, which would cover computer resources and other teaching material. Other examples might be taking lunch to work or washing your car at home rather than at the car wash. You might find another small excess in your life that you might forego for a month to make a difference.

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Fr Christian Fini OMI

ps Donations are tax deductible.

pps MAMI takes no responsibility or liability for adverse reaction caused by the sudden decrease in caffeine or allergies caused by soapsuds.

Ordination of Fr Peter Hong OMI



Deacon Peter Hong who completed his theological studies in Australia was ordained a priest on the 7th of December at the diocesan ordination ceremony in Suwon Diocese. South Korea has about 48 million people of whom 24 million live in 'Greater Seoul'. Suwon is one of the cities subsumed by Seoul (like a Paramatta or Dandenong) and a suffragan diocese of Seoul. There were 14 ordinands for the Diocese ordained with Peter.



The Oblates have been in Korea since the late 1980s and before Fr Peter Hong's ordination there were two Italian priests and two Korean priests stationed in the mission. The mission also has a scholastic (Samuel), and a pre-Novice in their house of formation in Suwon.

Fr Mark Edwards and Fr James Jeyachandran, who was the former delegation Superior currently working in Australia, attended the Ordination representing the Australia Province.

Fr Mark Edwards OMI

If you wish to make a donation to MAMI apart from the Annual August appeal, your gift is always happily received. To assist our administration and avoid confusion you may like to use this donation slip. Thank you for kind and generous support.

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