



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WHITEHORSE

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Memo for Public Release

Date: January 30, 2023

To: All clergy, lay pastoral associates and parishioners

From: Chancery

Re: Announcement of Death of Fr. Oscar Pauwels, OMI

We would like to share with you the news of the passing of Fr. Oscar Pauwels, OMI who served in the Diocese of Whitehorse for many years.

In 1953, Fr. Pauwels was assigned to Mayo-Elsa but was only there a short time because of health reason and the need for medical care in Manitoba. After regaining his health, he worked in Winnipeg in a German parish composed of immigrant parishioners. In 1966, when asked by the Superior General of the Missionary Oblates of Mary immaculate, he returned to the Yukon to assist at the Cathedral in Whitehorse. In 1975, he was named pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes in Cassiar, B.C. which was also responsible for the Mission in Good Hope Lake, B.C. During this time, he was the Provincial of the Vice-Province of the Yukon until it was amalgamated in 1983 with St. Paul's Province.

In 1986, after faithfully serving the people of Cassiar & Good Hope Lake for an eleven years, he became the pastor of St. Patrick's Church in Lethbridge, Alberta. When he retired from full time ministry, he was assigned to Pandosy Place which is a residence in Vancouver, B.C. for elder Oblates.

Following is the announcement of Fr. Pauwels death. Please pray for his soul as he passes to the house of the Father, and also for the consolation of his family and friends.

Rev. Oscar Peter Pauwels, O.M.I. passed away peacefully on the morning of Sunday, January 22, 2023 at Vancouver General Hospital in Vancouver, BC at the age of 96.

Fr. Oscar was born on July 16, 1926 in Poperinge, Belgium and Ordained to the Priesthood in the Congregation of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate on February 24, 1952 in Gyzegem, Belgium.

Funeral services will be as follows: Viewing at 9:00am followed by Mass on Wednesday February 1, 2023 at 10:00am at St. Augustine's Church, 2028 West 7th Avenue, Vancouver, BC.

Interment follows at the Oblate Cemetery in Mission, BC.