



# FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 16; February 2, 2018

**MY FATHER, JEROME MIEHM, DIED LAST WEEK AT THE AGE OF 93.** His health had been failing for some time, but he led a long, faith-filled and blessed life. I was the celebrant of his Funeral Mass last Friday at St. Anthony Daniel Parish in Kitchener. It was well-attended by clergy and lay people, with a nice contingent of both making the trip from Peterborough. I am appreciative of all your kind words and prayers at this time. I will always be grateful that my father managed to be at my Installation as Bishop last April, something that happened only through his utter determination and the grace of God.

**TODAY IS THE WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE**, celebrated every year on February 2nd, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Pope John Paul II initiated this custom in 1997 to recognize the vital contribution of Religious women and men to the life of the Church. Tonight at 7:00 p.m., we will gather with sisters and priests from our Diocese for a Mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains, thanking God for their presence, witness and apostolic outreach.

St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish hosted the Ecumenical Service for **THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** on January 21<sup>st</sup>. I was happy to see a nice turnout of Christians from our city and region. The Right Reverend Michael Beford-Jones gave an inspiring and enlightening homily. Catholic, Anglican and Lutheran clergy were in attendance along with yours truly as celebrant. Sincere thanks to Father Jerry Tavares for hosting and planning the festivities, in tandem with Rev. Brad Smith, Rector of St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church.

I am looking forward to the **ST. JOSEPH DINNER** this Saturday evening at the Evinrude Center: now in its second year, this event is held to promote Catholic Campus ministry at Trent University, Fleming College and Sacred Heart College. Father John Perdue has been working hard (even as he wraps up a successful Flying Fathers event) to make sure everything is ready for a great celebration. Months ago, I agreed to be the main speaker: I will at least try not to torture the patrons for too long! I am happy for anything that raises the profile of Campus ministry, something that needs to be a real priority for us.

It was a privilege to meet yesterday with the leadership of the **PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT WAPITI METIS COUNCIL**. I along with Director of Education Michael Nasello and PVNC Catholic School Board leaders were warmly received by Andy Dufrane (President) and senior members of the Council. We had an informative sharing and good discussions about the challenges and hopes of Metis people in our communities. I have learned a lot by participating in these meetings arranged by our local Catholic School Board. At the end of this meeting, we were honoured to be gifted with a traditional Metis sash.

**FATHER TOM LYNCH WAS FORMALLY WELCOMED** as Rector of the Cathedral at the 10:30 Mass this past Sunday. He is already urging parishioners to fill in a survey listing what they regard as three priorities for the Cathedral. And thus, begins a new era! Blessings on your ministry, Father Tom.

Pax et Bonum, † Daniel