



# FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 24; April 6, 2018

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER LITURGIES** at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains were carefully-planned, beautifully celebrated and well-attended. It was a treat for me to be with the Cathedral community throughout those holy days. As an Auxiliary Bishop in Hamilton I was often like a “wandering Aramean” in Holy Week, going from parish to parish and parachuting in for individual liturgies. It was a privilege to celebrate at the Cathedral, the mother church of the diocese, throughout the Easter Triduum. Sincere thanks to Father Lynch, Father Smullen and Father Rathinaswamy, and the many good volunteers of the Cathedral. Special thanks to our priests, deacons and volunteers across the Diocese who made Easter happen in their respective parishes.

**THE WAY OF THE CROSS THROUGH THE STREETS OF PETERBOROUGH** was a moving act of devotion on Good Friday. The fine cast of young people did a tremendous job on a cold day to re-enact the fourteen stations that comprised our Lord’s journey to Calvary. I was impressed by the faith and devotion of the more than one thousand people who came to walk the way along with the young people. Much thanks goes to Father Craig Cruikshank, the adult leaders and the fine cast of teens who made this presentation so beautiful.

**I WAS PLEASED TO MEET WITH THE LEADERS OF THE ABRAHAM FESTIVAL** this week. For fifteen years, this annual event has brought together Christians, Jews and Muslims in the Peterborough community, to help people learn about similarities and differences in our various faith traditions – and all with a spirit of openness and hospitality. This year’s Abraham Festival takes place at the Mount Community Centre on Saturday, April 21. More information can be found [here](#).

**I WAS BACK AT HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL** in Peterborough this week, to celebrate Mass for the Easter season. Accompanying me was the pastor of St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish, Father Jerry Tavares. At the end of the Mass, I blessed and commissioned the young people who are leaving for Guatemala next week on the “Wells of Hope” mission trip. Next on the program was an informative tour of the school by the principal, Mr. Jamie Brake. I don’t know if we saw every nook and cranny, but we saw most of it – and it was impressive to learn about the many different learning opportunities that our Catholic students enjoy.

**THE ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE** will be held on Parliament Hill on May 10: it always takes place the 2nd Thursday of May. I am looking forward to being back this year, and to celebrating Mass for many of the participants the night before, at St. Theresa Parish in Ottawa. This yearly demonstration is one of our most important national ventures to defend the rights of unborn children.

**THE EASTER SEASON MEANS I WILL BE ON THE CONFIRMATION CIRCUIT**, starting with St. Therese Parish in Courtice and St. Joseph Parish in Douro this weekend.

Pax et Bonum, † Daniel