



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No.31; May 25, 2018

THE ORDINATION OF DEACON STEPHEN DECARLO to the priesthood takes place at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains tonight at 7:00 p.m. We had the rehearsal last night and everything seems to be in place! Please keep Stephen in your prayers and join us tonight at the Cathedral if you are able. An Ordination to the Priesthood is always a pinnacle event in the life of a diocese.

OUR DIOCESAN MASS FOR NEW CATHOLICS takes place this Sunday at 2:00 p.m. at the Cathedral. We have planned this Mass to celebrate with all those in our diocese who entered the Church at Easter. So, all are very welcome to join us for that celebration, to pray for our newest Catholics and to show them our support.

OUR VOCATIONS OFFICE ORGANIZED A HOLY HOUR following the Ordination Rehearsal yesterday, to pray with and for people discerning their vocation. It was a prayerful and beautiful liturgy at the Cathedral, and well-attended by people of all ages. Immediately following, we convened for a barbecue on the patio of the Cathedral rectory, with about 25 young men in attendance. Fr. John Perdue and Fr. Tom Lynch plied us with food and soft drinks, and we were privileged to hear a few words from Deacon Stephen DeCarlo on the eve of his ordination.

I ENJOYED MY VISIT TO ST. THOMAS AQUINAS Catholic Secondary School in Lindsay yesterday. The principal, Mr. Gerard Winn, very graciously led me on a tour from class to class: and with a student body of about 300 we were able to visit most of them. The school has rather a homey feel to it, while providing a great range of educational programs. Our little group included other school staff and the local priests, Father Balonwu Okpe and Father Eric Mason. And it was all capped off by lunch with the department heads and Student Council reps. I appreciated the warm welcome and the chance to visit staff and students alike.

MY CONFIRMATION ROUNDS ARE SLOWING DOWN but not stopping. Among other places last week, I celebrated Mass for the first time at St. Mary Church in Campbellford. It is one of our beautiful, historic churches and they have done stellar work in their ongoing restoration project. I was also very interested to visit the Trinity Ikon Catholic Bookstore, which the parish has opened across the road from the church. It is located in the otherwise unoccupied "manse" of the Presbyterian Church and has a great range of Catholic books and devotional items.

I WILL BE TRAVELLING TO ST. JOSEPH PARISH IN POWASSAN for a Confirmation on Saturday evening. I am hopeful for good weather and a nice drive to this northernmost parish in the Diocese.

THE PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE WILL BE ON OUR ANNUAL RETREAT from June 4 to 8. We are looking forward to gathering at the Queen of Apostles Centre in Mississauga with this year's retreat master, Archbishop Michael Miller of Vancouver.

Pax et Bonum, † Daniel