



# FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 63; April 5, 2019

**SISTER VERONICA O'REILLY, CSJ PASSED AWAY ON WEDNESDAY** after a battle with cancer. Sister Veronica was well-known in Peterborough and well beyond, especially because of prominent leadership roles that she held, including several terms as General Superior for the Sisters of St. Joseph. I extend my prayerful condolences to Sister Veronica's family and to the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Her funeral Mass will be celebrated Monday at 1:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains. Visitation is at Mount St. Joseph on Sunday. "Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her."

**THE CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION OF RELIGION AND FAMILY LIFE COORDINATORS OF ONTARIO (CARFLEO)** met for their annual conference in Mississauga last week. I was happy to be present for the proceedings, and delighted to listen to their keynote speaker, also from the Diocese of Peterborough: Sister Mary Rowell, CSJ, gave two excellent presentations on the encyclical of Pope Francis, *Laudato Si*, which spoke to the theme of the conference, "Land and Water: Sacred Gifts of the Creator."

**THE HOLY SEE PUBLISHED EARLIER THIS WEEK CHRISTUS VIVIT (Christ Lives).** This Apostolic Exhortation is the follow-up document to last year's Synod of Bishops held on the theme of Youth and Vocations. It is addressed to young people and the entire people of God. Pope Francis sets the tone early on with his opening words to youth: "Christ is alive, and he wants you to be alive!" It is a crucial read for all those who work with young people in our Church. The members of our newly established Diocesan Youth Commission will be tackling it very soon!

**OUR ANNUAL MASS FOR NEW CATHOLICS** will be celebrated on the weekend of the Second Sunday of Easter. New Catholics received into the Church at Easter, their sponsors, family and RCIA team members are most welcome to join us at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, April 27. A reception will be held in Bishop Doyle Hall immediately following the Mass.

**ON DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (APRIL 28) A HOLY HOUR FOR HEALING AND CONVERSION** in the Church will be held at each parish in our Diocese. This Holy Hour is an opportunity for us to pray for victims and all those who have been harmed by the impact of clergy sexual abuse. We also pray that there may be an openness to conversion and reform so that all people, including the most vulnerable, will be safe and protected within the Church. Prayers will also be offered at each Mass in the Diocese **that weekend for this vital intention.**

**SINCERE THANKS TO THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. MARY PARISH IN GRAFTON** who so kindly welcomed me to their parish last weekend. There was a great spirit of joy and hospitality, although the early morning snowfall on Sunday was certainly a shock to the system!

Pax et Bonum, † Daniel