



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 70; May 31, 2019

I HAVE BEEN BUSY WITH THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION all over the Diocese in recent weeks. The good preparation of the young people is evident in the very thoughtful letters they have written expressing their desire to be confirmed and receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. I look forward to being at St. Joseph Parish in Bowmanville and St. Anne Parish in Peterborough this weekend. Sincere thanks to pastors, parish catechists, school staffs, parents and sponsors for all that is being done to prepare the young people for this Sacrament.

THE PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE WILL BE ON RETREAT THIS COMING WEEK, gathering at Queen of Apostles Centre in Mississauga. This annual time of prayer, fraternity and spiritual renewal is crucial to our life and ministry, so we appreciate your prayers for us. Bishop Gary Gordon of Victoria (who led the city-wide Mission this past Lent in Peterborough) will be our preacher, and we are looking forward to his special combination of humility, humour, deep faith and homespun wisdom!

Like many countries in the world, the Church in Canada transfers the **FEAST OF THE ASCENSION** from Thursday (40 days after Easter) to the following Sunday – that is, this weekend. It is also when the Church marks **WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY**, a time for us to reflect on how the media communication modes can be used to promote the spread of the Gospel. Why not check out our Diocese of Peterborough website? While you're at it, visit our Facebook page and Twitter account and consider friending or following us! We are finding more and more ways to use these social media platforms to enhance the life of faith in our diocese. Parish bulletins still have their place, but it's a blessing to have these newer media tools at our disposal.

I ENJOYED MY TOUR EARLIER TODAY OF THE MOUNT COMMUNITY CENTRE. I had crossed the threshold a couple of times for meetings, but this was my first "big picture" look. It is impressive to see how organizers and partners have rallied to transform the former home of the Sisters of St. Joseph into low-cost housing and space for community groups. And the work is ongoing as more and more of the huge complex is renovated and re-purposed. It was heartening to see all the good work that is being done.

ST. PAUL PARISH IN NORWOOD celebrates its 150th Anniversary this weekend. I look forward to being with Father John Albao and parishioners for a Mass of Thanksgiving this Sunday. They are excited about this milestone and rightly so, a testament to the faithfulness of generations of Catholics.

ON ACCOUNT OF THE PRIESTS' RETREAT, I don't expect to publish FROM THE VINEYARD NEXT WEEK. And of course, we are rapidly approaching its summer hiatus!

Pax et Bonum, † Daniel