



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 71; June 14, 2019

BISHOP GARY GORDON OF VICTORIA LED OUR PRIESTS' RETREAT the week before last, and the response was tremendously positive. With a wealth of personal experiences, including decades of pastoral work with Indigenous peoples, Bishop Gary gave us inspiring reflections on the Luminous Mysteries of the rosary. All of it was beautifully tailored to the life and ministry of priests and gave us a lot of food for thought. Sincere thanks to the organizing committee which annually arranges both the Retreat and Study days for our priests.

IT WAS A GREAT RETIREMENT PARTY FOR FATHER JOE MORAN in Gravenhurst last Friday. Family members, parishioners, friends and various priests gathered for Mass at St. Paul Parish followed by a dinner and reception at the Community Center. Father Joe wraps up eleven years in Gravenhurst and forty-nine years of service in many parishes of the Diocese of Peterborough. He will no doubt be "actively retired" as he takes up residence in Bracebridge at the end of this month.

THE RITE OF ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY FOR ORDINATION AS DEACONS will be celebrated at the 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains this Sunday. Four men of our diocese have been studying and preparing for Ordination as Permanent Deacons. They have now completed their first of four years (the "aspirancy" year) and are ready to declare publicly their desire to continue their formation in order to serve God and the Church. The Rite of Admission to Candidacy is celebrated with all those preparing for ordination, whether to priesthood or the diaconate. Please pray for our four candidates and their families as they continue to discern God's call and commit themselves to this ongoing time of formation.

I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO BEING AT ST. PETER'S SEMINARY IN LONDON on Monday, to give a lecture in their summer spiritual program. I have participated in this program for the past five or six years, part of an extended school year for those who are new to the seminary. The students spend several weeks focused on matters of human formation, personal maturity and spiritual growth.

I ENJOYED A QUICK TRIP TO ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY in Antigonish, for the annual meeting of Canadian Catholic Campus Ministry. University Chaplains from across the country gather for a few days of networking and professional development. I generally attend this yearly gathering in my role as the Liaison for the Canadian Bishops. Although I couldn't stay for the entire conference, I was glad that Peterborough was well-represented by Father John Perdue throughout these days.

THE RETIRED PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE will gather for a Barbecue on Wednesday, hosted by the Diocesan Pastoral Centre and the Cathedral. The guest list looks full and this is always a great way to express thanks to our senior priests, many of whom continue to assist in parishes as they are able.

Pax et Bonum, † Daniel