



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 107; June 5, 2020

EARLIER THIS WEEK I ANNOUNCED THE CLERGY TRANSFERS FOR OUR DIOCESE. In view of the current pandemic, we have pushed back our usual late June timing and the moves, for the most part, do not take effect until July 29th. My sincere thanks to all the priests who have accepted new assignments, especially in light of the challenges that we are facing in our parishes with the pandemic.

FATHER MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY, FOUNDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, will be beatified. The good news was decreed this week by Pope Francis, following the recognition of a miracle attributed to Father McGivney's intercession. Father McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in New Haven, Connecticut in 1882 and it is today the world's largest Catholic fraternal organization, with nearly two million members in more than a dozen countries. Father McGivney died in 1890 in the midst of a pandemic that claimed more than a million lives. The Knights are a major force in the areas of evangelization, charitable works, racial integration, pro-life initiatives, and the defense of religious freedom. A date will be set soon for the Beatification Mass, which will take place in Father McGivney's native Connecticut.

I APPRECIATE THE GOOD WORK OF ALL WHO ARE HELPING TO BROADCAST OUR WEEKLY MASS from the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains: Cathedral staff and volunteers, our Diocesan staff, and the folks at Your TV Peterborough. Last weekend I was also pleased to livestream a celebration of the Pentecost Vigil Mass from St. Francis in Newcastle: and pleasantly surprised that the pastor, Father Ace Podelino was able to participate by video from his location in the Philippines. He is safe and well and working on plans for his safe return to Canada. Please join us this weekend for the Mass for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity.

THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT HAS EXTENDED THE STATE OF EMERGENCY in our province until June 30. We continue to work on our Re-opening plans here in the Diocese of Peterborough, in concert with the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario and in consultation with public health officials. I will have more information to share about that next week.

MANY MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS HAVE GONE ONLINE this season, and we are preparing to do so for Canadian Catholic Campus Ministry. As their liaison bishop, I usually attend the annual convention at this time of the year, held somewhere in Canada. Next week, we will have a much-reduced program online, including the Annual General Meeting and a time to share ideas and promising practices in Campus Ministry – which should certainly be an interesting discussion this year, with all that has taken place.

Fraternally, † Daniel