



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 123; November 27, 2020

A SESSION FOR NEW PASTORS was held yesterday at our Diocesan Pastoral Center. Fr. Stephen DeCarlo and Fr. Israel Oruebi MSP, both appointed parish administrators this past summer, were in attendance. We dealt with a range of topics including Sacramental preparation, communications, good record-keeping, spiritual leadership and financial and human resources management. Stepping into parish leadership imposes many new responsibilities on a priest. Fr. Stephen and Fr. Israel have had the added complication of taking these duties on in the time of COVID-19! Thanks to our Diocesan Pastoral Center staff who put the day and program together.

I WAS DELIGHTED TO LEARN LAST WEEKEND THAT FATHER WAYNE LOBSINGER has been appointed the new Auxiliary Bishop of Hamilton, assuming the role that I vacated when I was appointed Bishop of Peterborough. Bishop-elect Lobsinger has been a priest of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Hamilton since 1994. In addition to serving as a very effective pastor in several parishes, he has been the Chair of the Presbyteral Council and is currently a member of the Formation Team at St. Peter's Seminary in London. For many years, he has been the Vicar for Consecrated Life in Hamilton, where he has lent support to the various Religious communities of women and men. We're looking forward to his Episcopal ordination early in the New Year.

SACRED HEART COLLEGE'S ANNUAL MSGR. JAMOT LECTURE has been posted online: *Clear Heads and Holy Hearts: Lay Catholic Spirituality according to St. John Henry Cardinal Newman*. Dr. Donald Graham provides a fascinating look at the life and thought of Cardinal Newman, while sprinkling in ideas from G.K. Chesterton, St. Therese of Lisieux and others. Set aside some time to view it on the Sacred Heart College website.

ADVENT BEGINS THIS SUNDAY, which means the start of a new liturgical year, and the time of preparation in advance of Christmas. It can be a tall order to focus on spiritual preparation with so many other demands on our time in December. *Journey through Advent* is a series of brief videos prepared by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. Bishop Douglas Crosby offers reflections on the Advent season and on the various Sunday readings. Why not commit to viewing each video each week, making this Advent a time truly to prepare the way of the Lord? Also, a reminder that the Mass for the First Sunday of Advent can be found on the YouTube channel for the Diocese.

THE ONTARIO STATE COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS is sponsoring a live-streamed Mass for deceased Knights from St. Ann's Parish in Ancaster. The Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow, Saturday, November 28th, 2020. In order to join the Mass, please visit the parish You Tube channel.

AN EXCELLENT FACT SHEET on Bill C-7 has been prepared by the Catholic Women's League and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. Bill C-7 proposes to expand the provision of Medical Assistance in Dying in Canada, putting many individuals and groups in jeopardy. We should all inform ourselves on this issue and commit to writing our Member of Parliament urging the defeat of this bill and promotion of good palliative care in our country.

Fraternally, † Daniel