



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 99; April 9, 2020

FROM THE VINEYARD PUBLISHES ONE DAY EARLY, just in advance of the Easter Triduum, during what is the most unusual Holy Week we have ever experienced.

DR. THERESA TAM, CANADA'S CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER, sent a letter to faith leaders earlier this week. In it, she asked our cooperation in adhering to the various provincial restrictions by suspending religious services for the time being. She asked that we also discourage people from attending small gatherings in order to promote the health and safety of our congregants and of all Canadians during this COVID-19 pandemic. We have been following such a protocol in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough for the past month and will continue to do so, as we enter into the most holy days of our Church year. Thank goodness for the many television options and Internet resources, which make possible the celebration of a virtual Easter in these unprecedented times.

I RELEASED MY MESSAGE FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER on Tuesday, and it can be found in letter form on the website for the Diocese. For those brave few who prefer me in visual format, I have delivered the same message on our Diocesan You Tube channel.

THE TAPING AND BROADCAST OF OUR PALM SUNDAY MASS from the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains went very well. The Mass was shown on Your TV (Cogeco) and our own Diocesan media platforms, and we are working out the technical challenges as we go. Many thanks to all who made it happen and to all who tuned in.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE BROADCAST AND INTERNET OPTIONS as we begin these sacred days in which we celebrate the great Paschal Mystery:

- Spiritual Resources for the family and for the at home celebration of Easter have been posted on our website to help you and your family to pray at home during these coming days.
- Salt and Light TV will livestream Pope Francis' celebrations of the Holy Week liturgies from St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Salt and Light can be accessed online by clicking [HERE](#) or you may wish to contact your cable provider for a free preview of S&L until April 13th.
- On Good Friday, please tune in to Salt and Light's 2016 production, *At the Foot of the Cross*. In 2016, S&L filmed the Way of the Cross held in Peterborough. It will bring back fond memories as we pray this sacred prayer at home on Good Friday and look forward to next year!
- On Easter Sunday at 11:00 a.m., Mass will be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains and shown on COGECO Your TV in Peterborough and on the Facebook page for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough. The hymn lyrics and Mass responses along with the Prayer for Spiritual Communion will be posted on the websites for the Diocese and the Cathedral along with their Facebook pages and Twitter feeds - @DiocesePtbo and @cathedralstpet. To join in prayer and song, please download this resource for the Easter Sunday Mass.

TO REPEAT A THOUGHT FROM MY HOLY WEEK MESSAGE, we will celebrate Easter behind closed doors, like the followers of the Lord at that first Easter Sunday: but celebrate we will, confident that the Lord is among us and that the doors will be opened again. May God bless you and yours abundantly this Holy Week and Easter.

Pax et Bonum, † Daniel