



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 142; May 7, 2021

THIS SUNDAY'S "YOU TUBE MASS" FEATURES A FAREWELL to the Polish Passionist Sisters. They are closing their convent here in Peterborough after forty-three years of service with us, much of it assisting at the Diocesan Pastoral Center. I was pleased that Sr. Gaudentia, Sr. Bogumilla and Sr. Dolores were present for the Mass taping, which included a presentation from me and the Polish Catholic community and remarks by the Sisters at the end of the liturgy. Please keep the Passionist Sisters in your prayers as they depart later this month, two for their convent in Montreal, and one to Poland. They will certainly be missed, and we thank God for their dedicated service over many years!

OUR PERMANENT DIACONATE FORMATION PROGRAM continues to meet online, one Saturday a month, for a full day of presentations and discussions. Tomorrow, the participants will have a panel discussion on practical aspects of homily preparation as well as presentations on Community chaplaincy and Ignatian spirituality. I am grateful to the members of the team who have managed to maintain this full and robust program of formation for our future Deacons, especially in these trying circumstances.

CONGRATULATIONS TO 38 STUDENTS WHO WON THE CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP AWARD at the PVNC Catholic District School Board. This event, typically held in Catholic Education Week, was staged virtually on Wednesday night. Twitter was used to announce the winner from each school and broadcast some recorded messages. Recipients are selected by the staff at each school as being the student who most exemplifies the Catholic Graduate Expectations, displaying leadership, kindness, compassion, and collaboration. Even though the winners could not be honoured in person, they have been recognized as true, young Catholic leaders!

"THE FIRST LADY AND HER SUCCESSORS" is a feature-length documentary written, produced, and directed by Dr. Josephine Lombardi, a professor at St. Augustine's Seminary. The film showcases nine dynamic women who have followed in the footsteps of the Blessed Virgin Mary. You may preview the trailer here and watch the film on Dr. Lombardi's website when it previews on May 13th at 7:00 p.m.

THIS SUNDAY IS MOTHER'S DAY, a time to rejoice in the gift of motherhood and to thank God for the love, faith, and good example our mothers have shared with us. As Pope Francis said in *Amoris Laetitia*, "a society without mothers would be dehumanized, for mothers are always witnesses to tenderness, dedication and moral strength."

WITH GRATITUDE TO GOD, I celebrate today my eighth anniversary of Episcopal Ordination, which comes on the heels of yesterday's occasion, my thirty-second anniversary of priesthood. The opportunities for celebration are limited these days, but your ongoing prayers for me and my ministry are what is most important to me, and always deeply appreciated!

Fraternally † Daniel