



# FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 143; May 14, 2021

**THE LIST OF CLERGY TRANSFERS WAS PUBLISHED** earlier today. They are scheduled to take place in the last week of July, about a month later than usual, in the hopes that the pandemic and its restrictions will be much reduced by then. I sincerely thank the priests who have accepted new assignments at this difficult time, and I pray that parishes will welcome them graciously. Thanks also to the Diocesan Personnel Board members who offer such good input and advice on this process each year.

**WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY** is always celebrated on the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord which is this Sunday. It's a day when Catholics are invited to reflect on the various media of social communication and how these influence our lives. This challenges us to consider ways that media can be used to spread the Gospel and its values and to support the kind of media content that promotes true human virtue and flourishing. I have been amazed at how the pandemic of this past year has led the Church to "up its game" with the use of electronic and social media, especially at the local level. Many people have told me how much they appreciate the YouTube Mass from our Cathedral, and other Masses being livestreamed around our Diocese. That is but one example of the ingenious use of media from this past year, a time when parishes have had to be creative. May the Lord continue to bless our efforts, using the media to spread the Good News!

**WE HAVE DECIDED TO DELAY OUR ANNUAL PRIEST BENEFIT FUND COLLECTION**, which was scheduled for the weekend of June 12/13. It will now take place in November: once again we are looking to a time when parish life will have resumed more normally. Those on the Pre-authorized Offertory Plan (POP) will have their accounts debited on the originally planned date of June 15th. (I am told that is too difficult to change!) We are grateful for your donations to that annual appeal, which ensures good care of our retired priests, now and in the future.

**LET US KEEP THE POLISH PASSIONIST SISTERS** in our prayers. With the closure of their convent in Peterborough, they are departing this coming week, two to their convent in Montreal and one back to Poland. Sisters, may God bless you and keep you! Thank you for all you have done in your apostolates in the Diocese of Peterborough. (Please read their farewell message on our website.)

**GLOBAL PRAYER FOR CHINA** is a response to the call for Prayer for the Church and Peoples of China, issued in March by Cardinal Charles Bo of Yangon. This global prayer initiative takes place in the week between Pentecost and Trinity Sunday, May 23-30. May 24 is the traditional feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, the day Pope Benedict XVI dedicated to praying for the Church in China – a call reaffirmed by Pope Francis. Check out this website and join in this global initiative of prayer for the Church in China.

Fraternally, † Daniel