



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 153; October 1, 2021

THE ORDINATION OF PETER LUKOW TO THE DIACONATE will be celebrated tonight at St. Therese Parish in Courtice. Because of Covid health precautions, attendance is limited to invited guests, but we will livestream the Mass on our Diocesan website. It will also be available for viewing afterwards. This is a day of joy for Peter, his family, and our Diocese! Please pray for him as he enters holy orders as a transitional deacon, preparing for ordination to the priesthood next year.

LIFE CHAIN TAKES PLACE in more than 200 locations across Canada this Sunday (from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. in most places) a silent, peaceful protest to defend the unborn. In Peterborough, Life Chain will be held at Lansdowne St. West and Aylmer (signs to be picked up at Sacred Heart Church.) To find the location in your community, you may check the Campaign Life website. Let us pray for the success of these demonstrations, promoting the sacredness of human life in the womb and beyond.

WE WERE SADDENED TO LEARN OF THE DEATH OF MSGR. JOHN WANNAMKER, who passed away earlier this week after a long illness. A private funeral will be held this weekend. Msgr. Wannamaker served as pastor at St. Therese in Courtice, St. John the Baptist in Peterborough and St. Paul in Lakefield. He was, over the years, a good friend to the Daughters of St. Mary of Leuca, who operate a day care in Courtice. Please pray for the repose of his soul and the consolation of his family.

THE CANADIAN BISHOPS have followed up last week's apology to Indigenous people with a commitment to a 30-million-dollar campaign to promote programs to assist survivors of residential schools, their families, and communities. It is noted in the statement that this national campaign will be locally driven and focused, in consultation with Indigenous Leaders. I look forward to developing plans here in the Diocese of Peterborough, so that we may do our part in this important venture to advance the cause of healing and reconciliation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BISHOP WILLIAM MCGRATTAN, my predecessor here in Peterborough, now serving as the Bishop of Calgary. He has been chosen as the new Vice-President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. This is a two-year term which typically leads to the Presidency of the Conference. With many challenges facing the Church in our country, Bishop McGrattan will certainly benefit from our prayers as he takes on this leadership role.

I WAS AT ST. PETER CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL in Peterborough this week, where I blessed the newly renovated chapel and recorded a Mass for Thanksgiving. This Mass will be broadcast to students and staff in the PVNC Catholic District School Board in the coming week. I was grateful for the kind welcome of students and staff at St. Peter's and for the reverent, attentive participation at Mass.

Fraternally, † Daniel