



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 218; May 19, 2023

ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM NOLAN of Glasgow, Scotland will celebrate Confirmation with the young people at St. Therese Parish in Courtice tomorrow. He is an old friend the pastor, Father Wojciech Blach, OMI, and is visiting for about a week. I had the pleasure of dropping into St. Therese for a courtesy call last night, following the Confirmations at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Newcastle. I was glad to learn that Archbishop Nolan has been able to enjoy some sightseeing in his brief time with us. Welcome to the Diocese of Peterborough, Your Grace!

OUR DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN will be published next Sunday, on the feast of Pentecost. It's exciting to see this plan, with its pastoral goals and strategies, come to fruition after several years of hard work. Check your bulletin and our website and social media accounts for news about the Pastoral Plan as it rolls out in just over a week.

FATHER BILL MOLONEY CELEBRATES HIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY of priesthood with a Mass at the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Campbellford on the feast of Pentecost – Saturday, May 27 at 4:00 p.m. This will be followed by a gala dinner in which Father Bill will undoubtedly be toasted, boasted and roasted! I am looking forward to preaching at the Mass and joining in the festivities afterwards which, I'm told, will include several hundred people.

THE PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON will gather for their Spiritual Retreat next week and I look forward to being with them as the retreat presenter. I was first on the docket for spring of 2020 and then Covid complications derailed and delayed all such plans. It is nice to finally fulfill this commitment. Please pray that our days together at Mount Carmel Retreat Center in Niagara Falls may be good ones, and that people may not weary of the presenter too quickly!

A GROUP OF BISHOPS, CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES AND TEACHERS were at Queen's Park on Tuesday. I was happy to be among them for one of our periodic "Lobby Days." We had the opportunity to meet with many MPP's to speak about the various benefits of publicly funded Catholic schools in Ontario. The meetings in which I was involved were friendly and informative. I was only sorry not to be able to stay for the reception at the end of the day, which included musical performances by Catholic students.

OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL held their St. Joseph Dinner on Wednesday night, an event to thank their donors. Chair of the Board Frank Callaghan and new Headmaster John Jalsevac both spoke eloquently about the many blessings that have come through Our Lady of the Wayside and the opportunities and avenues still to be explored. It was a wonderful event, which also included many musical performances by a talented group of students!

SAFE TRAVELS TO EVERYONE THIS VICTORIA DAY WEEKEND, typically the beginning of the summer season and bigger crowds at our northern churches.

Fraternally, † Daniel