



# FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 219; May 25, 2023

**THIS SUNDAY IS THE SOLMENITY OF PENTECOST**, which celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. This is also the weekend when we will release our Pastoral Plan for the Diocese of Peterborough, "Transforming our Lives; Building our Church." I have prepared a letter to be read in each parish of the diocese this Sunday, outlining our hopes for the implementation of this pastoral plan which was developed after a couple of years of input. Let us pray for the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit as we strive to make this plan a reality in our Diocese!

**PRIESTS AND DEACONS OF THE DIOCESE** will gather for a meeting on Wednesday for an in-service covering a variety of topics. On the agenda is the new Diocesan Pastoral Plan, the new Sacramental Preparation resources, and the introduction of Formed.org. "Formed" is a wonderfully rich Catholic streaming service, with a wide array of offerings, which we will make available to parishes and parishioners for the next several years. We are grateful to Father Michael Nneji and the staff and parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Kirkfield for hosting us for this meeting.

**I FINISHED MY RETREAT WITH THE PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON** earlier today. It was enjoyable to spend a few days at Mount Carmel Retreat Center in Niagara Falls with some of my old confreres, and to present some reflections to them on the Rite of Ordination of Priests. We were certainly blessed with good weather and being just a few minutes walk from the Falls is always a blessing.

**FATHER BILL MOLONEY CELEBRATES HIS 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY** of priesthood with a Mass at St. Mary's Church in Campbellford tomorrow, Saturday, May 27 at 4:00 p.m., followed by a celebratory dinner. And there are some other Ordination anniversaries of note taking place these days. Congratulations to **Msgr. John Pearson** and **Father Leo Coughlin** (65 years) and **Father Garry Leahy** (60 years) as they mark important milestones in their priestly service.

**FATHER DOMINICK MBAH** was installed as the new pastor of St. Mary's Parish in Huntsville this past Sunday. It was a joy to celebrate those liturgical rites with him and to be ably assisted during the Mass by Deacon Jan Sirek. Afterwards, the spirit of festivity continued with a barbecue held on the lovely grounds of St. Kateri Mission in Baysville.

**ON MONDAY, THE CHURCH CELEBRATES MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH**, a new memorial in our liturgical calendar, established by Pope Francis. As we resume the season of Ordinary Time, we honour the Blessed Virgin Mary under a title especially favoured by the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us!

Fraternally, + Daniel