



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 201; June 9, 2023

ARCHBISHOP SYLVAIN LAVOIE, OMI, gave a wonderful Spiritual Retreat to the priests of our Diocese this week. Entitled, “Living in the Reign,” it included his many thoughtful (and humorous) reflections on personal growth, fruitful ministry and aging graciously. We also enjoyed his helpful insights on truth and reconciliation matters, given his long history of ministry with Indigenous people in Manitoba and elsewhere. It was a blessed and prayerful few days of good learning and priestly fraternity. I was privileged to celebrate the closing Mass at the retreat this morning for the repose of the soul of my mother, Theresa, on this the 25th anniversary of her death.

ST. MARTIN PARISH IN ENNISMORE had a grand celebration last Sunday, commemorating the 100th Anniversary of their church. The current church replaced the original one that was destroyed by fire in 1922. I celebrated the Mass of Thanksgiving that morning, joined by the current pastor, Father Ante Market, and former pastors Father Andrew Broda and Father Dominick Mbah. The church was full, and the celebration of the Eucharist was a truly joyful one. Afterwards, people could enjoy a barbecue on the grounds, live music, and some interesting historical displays in the parish hall. And that bouncy castle for the kids was a stroke of genius!

JUNE IS THE MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART, and the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart is celebrated on Friday, June 16. As it has done in recent years, the Institute for Catholic Education is promoting a [Novena to the Sacred Heart](#), in our Catholic schools and beyond. We are encouraged to pray to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a heart that overflows with love for each and every one of us!

THE ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE PRIEST BENEFIT FUND takes place this Sunday, June 11. We are grateful for your generosity in this yearly appeal, one that enables us to care for our retired priests who have served with such dedication and faithfulness. You can find more information about the Priest Benefit Fund [here](#), including the option to donate online.

A JAZZ NIGHT is being presented by our World Youth Day Pilgrims, with a band featuring Carling Stephen and Rob Philips. It promises to be a great night of music at Bishop Doyle Hall on Saturday, June 17, beginning at 7:00 p.m. More information can be found [here](#). All proceeds will go toward our World Youth Day pilgrimage to Portugal this summer. Come out for an enjoyable night and to support a good cause!

IT HAS BEEN A DEVASTATING FOREST FIRE SEASON so far in our nation. Let us keep in our prayers all who have been displaced by these terrible fires and all those working courageously to bring them under control.

Fraternally, † Daniel