



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 225; September 8, 2023

NOT BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND, but by the persistent march of time, *From the Vineyard* returns from summer vacation! I pray that everyone had a safe and restful couple of months.

IT HAS BEEN A BUSY SUMMER OF PRIESTLY MOVES, with some new arrivals to the Diocese of Peterborough. Father Simon Magana, IVE, arrived as the new associate pastor at St. Mary Parish in Lindsay. Father MacAnthony Obikili, SMMM, began his assignment in August as the associate at St. Michael Parish in Cobourg. Father Emmanuel Mbam, MSP has been living at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Huntsville since he came in July: he will take up new duties as the Administrator at St. Joseph Parish in Powassan later this week. Father Max Delamour from Haiti is serving as the associate at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains. Father Simmy Joseph, CMI landed in early July as the pastor of St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish in Peterborough. And Father Benedict Young Woo Lee began his tenure as pastor at Korean Martyrs' in Brighton two weeks ago. Welcome, Fathers, one and all!

AND A FEW OLD HANDS HAVE BEEN ON THE MOVE ALSO. Father Vincent Kim has moved from Korean Martyrs' this week to become the associate pastor at St. Anne Parish in Peterborough. Father Paul Hogan began a stint as interim chaplain to Peterborough Regional Health Center in July. And Father Eric Mason moves from Powassan next week to take up new duties as chaplain to Trent University and Fleming College. Blessings on your ministries, Fathers.

BLESSED ELISA MARTINEZ, foundress of the Daughters of St. Mary of Leuca, was beatified on June 25th, recognized for her holiness, prayerfulness and dedication to the poor. We have been blessed for many years with the presence of the Daughters of St. Mary of Leuca in Courtice, where they run a day care adjacent to St. Therese of Lisieux Parish. I am looking forward to being with them tomorrow for a Mass of Thanksgiving and celebration in honour of this joyful event in the life of the Congregation.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH IN BOWMANVILLE celebrates their 90th Anniversary as a parish this weekend: it is also the 65th Anniversary of the current church. Fr. Craig Cruikshank and parishioners have planned a grand celebration, with an outdoor Mass at 10:30 a.m., followed by a Barbecue lunch and family activities. Everyone is praying for good weather!

IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME for students across the diocese, which means exciting and busy days. Last week, I celebrated Mass and commissioning with the board and school leaders from PVNCCDSB at the Cathedral. Yesterday afternoon, I celebrated Mass at Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School, and enjoyed the barbecue afterwards with students, staff, parents and clergy.

A NEW SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM for First Eucharist and Reconciliation is being launched in the diocese, using the resource "Signs of Grace." This fine program has been augmented by our own local material, put together by our intrepid Sacramental Preparation Committee. A reminder to clergy, teachers, school board admin/staff, and parish sacramental preparation team members about the training session, next Saturday, September 16, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at St. Anne Parish in Peterborough.

Fraternally, + Daniel