



# FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 252; April 5, 2024

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER** were busy times in the parishes of our diocese, with reports of large crowds for the major liturgies. Congratulations to all our new Catholics who were baptized and received into the Church at Easter! Thanks go out as well to all those who organized the **Outdoor Way of the Cross** here in Peterborough on Good Friday. We were blessed with a fine day, even though a bit cool, and were gratified to see the hundreds of people who came out to participate in this prayerful celebration of the Lord's Passion.

**WE WELCOMED JAMES GRAINGER** to the Diocesan Pastoral Center staff this week. He is taking over the role of Assistant to the Bishop, spending a couple of weeks working with Deirdre Thomas before her departure for a well-earned retirement. James is a devoted Catholic who comes with an extensive background in writing, editing and account management. He will bring a range of helpful skills to this role, and we are so very happy to welcome him to our team at the Diocese of Peterborough.

**THE HALL AT ST. LUKE PARISH IN DOWNEYVILLE** has been undergoing a very beautiful renovation for some years now. On Wednesday this week, a Grand Opening was held for Phase 3 of this major project (kitchen and washrooms.) The event was MC' d by Father Israel Oruebi and Karen Cook, and visiting dignitaries included local MPP Laurie Scott. Although I was unable to attend, I was happy that our Vicar General, Msgr. Michael Heffernan – a former pastor of St. Luke's – was there to represent the Diocese.

**THE SENIORS' CAFÉ** at St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish in Peterborough is well-attended each month, and I enjoyed being with them yesterday. After celebrating Mass at 10:00 a.m., with the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we gathered in the hall for a lunch and a brief talk from yours truly. We were also treated to a fine musical performance by Claudio and Ania Engli, which capped off the morning nicely! Sincere thanks to Fr. Simmy for his kind invitation and to all those who work so hard to organize the Seniors' Café.

**CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD** runs in many parishes across Canada, with a strong presence here at Immaculate Conception Parish in Peterborough. They recently produced this interesting video "Where are You at Mass?" which is an excellent explanation for children (and adults) of what we do at the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Our thanks to Susan Perna who works diligently in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for sharing this very helpful resource.

**CATHOLIC STUDENTS** involved in Peterborough Campus Ministry will celebrate their banquet for the closing of the school year tonight. I am sure it will be an occasion of great festivity and gratitude for the many blessings experienced through Campus Ministry at Trent University and Fleming College.

Fraternally, † Daniel