



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 262; June 21, 2024

WE WERE SADDENED TO LEARN THAT FATHER WILLIAM BROWN died earlier this week at the age of 93. Originally ordained a priest for the Basilian Fathers in 1960, he had a lengthy teaching career before joining the Diocese of Peterborough in 1983. Father Brown provided pastoral assistance in several parishes including St. Joseph's in Douro and Immaculate Conception in Peterborough. Please keep him in your prayers. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Basil's Church in Toronto on July 17 at 10:00 a.m.

RETIRED PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE gathered for their annual barbecue at the Cathedral rectory on Wednesday this week. It was the first time we ever had to move the event indoors because of heat! But the turnout was good, and the mood wasn't dampened by the interior setting, which had the advantage of being much cooler. Sincere thanks to the Cathedral and Diocesan Pastoral Center staff who worked to pull it all together.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCILS from the Lake Ontario shore hosted a Clergy Appreciation Night at St. Joseph's Church in Bowmanville two weeks ago. I enjoyed getting together with priests and deacons from our Southern Deanery parishes and really appreciated the kind hospitality of the Knights, who have held this gathering annually. We thank them for donating the money raised to our Priest Benefit Fund collection, another wonderful gesture of support for our clergy.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER MICHAEL BREHL, C.Ss.R., who was appointed bishop last week to our neighbouring Diocese of Pembroke. Father Brehl is currently serving as the Provincial Superior of the Redemptorists in Canada, and formerly served as Redemptorist Superior General in Rome (2009-2022). His Episcopal Ordination and Canonical Possession of the Diocese is planned for Thursday, August 15 at the Cathedral of St. Columbkille in Pembroke.

THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH CELEBRATES A JUBILEE YEAR IN 2025, and this one is centered on the theme, "Pilgrims of Hope." These "Ordinary Jubilees" happen every 25 years and are occasions for thanksgiving, works of mercy and renewal in faith. Our Jubilee Committee met earlier this week to begin putting plans in place for some Diocesan celebrations. Already, our website's Jubilee page has a wealth of links and resources. People may also wish to check out this webinar series "A Great Symphony of Prayer: the Our Father as a Programme of Life." The talks by Dr. Josephine Lombardi of St. Augustine's Seminary are a great resource for this "Year of Prayer" leading up to the Jubilee. You can access those talks at the Canadian Bishops' website here.

IT IS GRADUATION SEASON and we extend our congratulations and offer prayers for all our graduates as they move onto new pathways in life. May you do so with confidence, faith and joy!

Fraternally, +Daniel