



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 248; March 8, 2024

THE CITY-WIDE LENTEN MISSION begins this weekend and continues Monday through Wednesday. Father Luke Joseph Leighton, CFR, and Father Juan Diego Sutherland, CFR, will speak on the theme “Pledge of Future Glory.” Twice daily presentations will take place at the Cathedral of St. Peter’s in Chains: 11:00 a.m. followed by the celebration of the Mass, and 7:00 p.m. within Eucharistic Adoration. (The 7:00 p.m. session will be broadcast on our Diocesan You Tube channel.) All are welcome: city-wide, diocese-wide and beyond! Let us pray for much spiritual fruit from this Lenten Mission.

PLANS FOR OUR ANNUAL CHRISM MASS are well underway, with a major difference this year. While this Mass celebrating the priesthood will still happen on Monday of Holy Week, we have switched from the evening to a 2:00 p.m. timing. It is hoped this will accommodate more of the clergy who live at a greater distance. The Mass will be followed by a reception and dinner for priests and deacons at 4:00 p.m. in Bishop Doyle Hall. Clergy are reminded to RSVP so that we may plan for the meal.

“COR” IS NEW ADULT FAITH FORMATION PROJECT by the Knights of Columbus. Cor’s mission is to “refocus Catholic men on Jesus Christ and to form and strengthen them in faith and virtue through a brotherhood committed to prayer, formation and fraternity.” I was very happy to learn more about this new program at this past Saturday’s meeting of the Diocesan Association of the Knights of Columbus and to hear it is already happening in at least one of our parishes. More information about Cor (Latin for “heart”) may be found [here](#).

I WAS HAPPY TO VISIT THE R.C.I.A. group at the Cathedral last week and to meet several candidates for baptism and confirmation. Lent is typically a period of more focused preparation for those who will receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. Let us pray for the many people around our Diocese who are preparing for these sacraments in the coming weeks!

I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO MASS WITH THE NIGERIAN COMMUNITY at St. Joseph’s Parish in Bowmanville. They gather for this Mass in English one Sunday afternoon a month, followed by a festive dinner. This growing community is well-served by the local priests, Father Craig Cruikshank and Father Darlington Oparaike, and they are often attended by other Nigerian priests in the area. I am told to plan for a lengthy and lively liturgy!

THE OUTDOOR WAY OF THE CROSS is a part of Holy Week in Peterborough not to be missed. The young cast and adult organizers have been working hard for several weeks now and this promises to be another moving presentation of the Lord’s passion and death – one with a long history in Peterborough. The Way of the Cross begins at 10:00 a.m. on Good Friday at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains. Sponsorship opportunities are available by contacting Fr. Stephen De Carlo, at frstephendecarlo@peterboroughdiocese.org.

Fraternally, + Daniel