



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 5; November 3, 2017

PARISH SECRETARIES AND BOOKEEPERS from around the Diocese were hosted at St. Paul Parish, Lakefield last Friday. I was happy to celebrate Mass for the group of twenty plus, who were then treated to a lunch catered by the Catholic Women's League. It was a good opportunity to show appreciation to the hard-working administrators (including those from the Diocesan Pastoral Centre) who help to keep our parishes running. Sincere thanks to Father Raymond Rick and Maryann Clancy from St. Paul the Apostle Parish for organizing a great event.

I SPENT LAST WEEKEND AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH IN PETERBOROUGH, kindly hosted by Father Bill Moloney and his parishioners. I couldn't help remarking that, having blanketed the north in my first months, it took me half a year to make the six-minute drive across the Hunter Street Bridge! I was warmly received despite my tardiness, and was pleased to celebrate Mass in such beautiful and historic church. I will be spending a little more time around Peterborough and environs in the coming months, with a weekend visit to St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish in the not-too-distant future.

THE MONSIGNOR JAMOT LECTURE TAKES PLACE AT SACRED HEART COLLEGE THIS THURSDAY. Dr. Randy Boyagoda will speak on the topic "Catholicism in the Canadian Public Square." It promises to be a lively and informative presentation from a top notch Catholic scholar. Dr. Boyagoda is Principal and Vice-President of the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto, and is a renowned novelist, biographer, essayist, columnist and professor. His lecture will explore the important contributions of three outstanding Canadian Catholics: Fr. Richard John Neuhaus, William Kurelek and Marshall McLuhan. Mark your calendars and plan to be there! We convene at 7:00 p.m. in Sacred Heart Parish on Romaine Street.

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED, a time when we commit ourselves with special devotion to praying for the deceased. I notice that many of our parishes have been promoting the "Book of Life" and encouraging parishioners to write in the names of their loved ones. Of course, our parishes were busy places on November 2nd for the Commemoration of All Souls. I was pleased to celebrate a Mass at the Cathedral for deceased members of the PVNC Catholic District School Board. I remarked there that the pious practice of offering Masses for our departed loved ones is a vital part of our faith that we should maintain.

THIS IS AN EXCITING WEEKEND FOR THE SISTERS OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE as they move into their newly acquired convent in Stewart Hall. The SOLI Sisters came to town last year, invited by Bishop McGrattan to take over the direction of Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School. The CONGREGATION OF THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH have graciously welcomed and housed them since then. I know the SOLI's are grateful to the CSJ's and are also eager to be settled in their own religious house. I look forward to blessing their new abode in the near future.

Pax et Bonum, †Daniel