

Dear Parishioners,

As September arrives there are a number of things to update everyone about at this time. First, I am glad to welcome our new Associate Pastor, Fr. Paul Patrick who arrives in the parish this Friday. He will be at Our Lady of Lourdes Site this first weekend and then at Corpus Christi site next weekend. I know you will all give him a nice welcome as he arrives.

Carlos Diaz our seminarian has returned to continue his studies at St. Peter Seminary in London. Deacon Robin is our new seminarian who has been assigned to our parish to continue his discernment for the priesthood. We are glad to have him with us as well.

The re-opening of the churches after the Covid lockdown has been going well. Special thank you to all those who are assisting with ushering and the cleaning of the church after the Masses. Numbers are increasing it seems each weekend, we will review this in September and if it becomes necessary we will consider adding a Mass at each Site. This is difficult in that we will need people for cleaning at these as well.

Our weekday summer Mass schedule will continue in the Fall to make it easier to do good cleaning in the churches.

One joyful activity in our parish at this time are the many baptisms. Since we are limited to one or two families at a time, we are placing baptism several times each weekend. Fortunately, with Deacon Robin, Deacon Tom and now Fr. Paul Patrick sharing these it is not overwhelming. In fact, they are very joyful celebrations to be part of. Pray for these children and their families.

Our St. Vincent de Paul Society is providing leadership in the rejuvenation of their St. Vincent de Paul Store. It will be newly blessed by Bishop Crosby on September 15 and I encourage you to support this project. It is an important service within our community especially for those in need.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is inviting everyone to come to the grand reopening of their thrift store, Vinnies Feel Good Shopping, located at 200 Parkdale Ave. North, on Sept. 15. The store will be opened from 9:30am until 1:30 pm as the Bishop will be blessing the store at 2pm. For more information, you can visit the website or the Store's Facebook page by clicking the links in the video transcript which can be found below this video. I encourage you to support the store as it is an important service within our community especially for those in need.

I also like to ask you for feedback regarding the Gospel Reflection which we put up on Wednesdays on our website and our Facebook page. Do you find it useful? What do you think of the idea of organizing yourselves to groups of 3-5 people to meet in person or virtually via zoom or skype or Messenger to reflect on the Sunday Gospel? Please email me and let me know what you think.

As school returns we pray for all teachers and students with this challenging situation. One of the things we will need to arrange is to set dates for First Communion for those **who** missed **it** in the Spring due to the lockdown and **to** set up plans for the next First Communion group in grade 2

and Confirmation in Grade 7. I will prepare an information video for each of these to be available on our web site. We will need to do two celebrations for each of our five elementary schools to accommodate the social distancing required.

Hope you are all doing well. God bless.