



www.sacredheartpeterborough.ca

www.stjohnpeterborough.ca

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PASTORS MESSAGE

Dear parishioners and friends: hello everyone, how are you doing? I hope and pray that all of you are doing well in the midst of this situation. We always keep you in our daily prayers.

I am so excited that finally the Government and the Diocese have given us permission to **RE-OPEN THE CHURCHES** after a long time of lockdown. I will anxiously be waiting for you all so I can greet you, see how you are doing, and we can pray together to God at the Church. Welcome back home all of you!!!

As we are re-opening our Churches with the 30% seating capacity in use, I would like to share some thoughts and ideas/ plans I have for this year:

- It has been an awful year for all of us: I do not want to talk about who suffer more or less, I just want to say that I know we all somehow have suffered along the last year and the beginning of this year; and I believe that this is not yet finished. That is why I just want to offer you my support, my prayers and my ears in case you need someone to talk to; the Church is open for you to come in to pray;

- I would like to thank Sr Krolowa and the volunteers for preparing the **TAX EXEMPTION RECEIPT**; I hope you already received the letter we sent out with the different material we included there. Thanks to your donations we were able to survive and for that I am very grateful to all of you. Please if you have any

complain / observation about what you received just call Sr Krolowa at the office;

- **ANOTHER YEAR IS AHEAD OF US**: a year of the Lord, full of blessings for those who love the Lord; a year we will try our best to serve you as much as we can; a year full of projects, maintenance and renewal projects. I hate to talk about money/ finances but there is a reality we need to face: the Church has expenses in things that are not visible to the eyes (fuel - building insurance - structural maintenance) and others that are visible - (flowers – candles – electricity – heater – water - etc.) Do you know that Sacred Heart Church pays almost 15,000 CND a year for building insurance? Do you St. John Church pays almost 9,000 CND a year for the same reason? Both Churches have different structural problems: leaks - joints that need to be addressed if we want to keep the Churches beautiful as they are; we also have some renovation projects that will be sharing with you at the proper time;

- As I announced a couple of months ago, we are working on building the new **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL** for both Parishes. It is a hard thing to do, especially when you do not know many people due to Covid restrictions but somehow it is coming along. I will publicly thank those who have already affirmatively answered my requests to fill in some positions and I am still looking and thinking of some other names to fill other positions. I would like to express my deep gratitude to those who have been working at the Church for so many years before I arrived: you did a great job and you are invited to join the Pastoral Council if you want;

- For now this **EMAIL GROUP** is the best way to communicate with you. If you know someone is not receiving these emails please let us know. Bulletins will be ready for next weekend;

- **THIS YEAR IS THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH**, so we will dedicate some time and activities to the figure of this very important Saint;

- We are in the Liturgical Season of **LENT**. I invite and encourage each one of you to live the best possible way all the proper practices of Lent. We invite you to come to Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish for the community prayer of the **WAY OF THE CROSS EVERY** Friday of Lent at 6:30 PM (Right after the Eucharistic Benediction); St. John the Baptist will have the stations every Saturday at 3:30 PM.

- Tomorrow Saturday February 20th our **MASSES:**

4:00 PM (St. John the Baptist)

5:30 PM (Sacred Heart of Jesus).

On Sunday February 21st

9:00 AM (Sacred Heart of Jesus)

10:30 AM (St John the Baptist)

We will continue with this same schedule for our weekend Masses. Our weekdays Masses are 8:00 AM (Mon and Wed at St John/ Tue, Thu and Fri at Sacred Heart);

I would like to personally thank all those beautiful people I have met during my first year here in Canada. Some of you have served the Church unconditionally without complain; some of you have been very supportive with words and gestures; but all of you have been praying for the mission of these Churches, for your present Pastor and for each and all the members of these Communities. That makes us all a family with the Lord, imperfect but a joyful family. Believe me, I don't have the magic answer to all the problems and concerns but I have faith in the Lord and I trust that He will help me and guide me in every decision to keep this family together in faith and charity;

To our Good Lord and His Blessed Mother I entrust each one of you together with your families and friends.

God bless you all, sincerely yours,

Fr. Salvador Maria Tadeo Curutchet, IVE
Pastor

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