The Roman Catholic Parishes of Cape Elizabeth, Scarborough, and South Portland, Maine

Dear Parishioners,

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13). As the world around us is still struggling and uncertain, through the power of the Holy Spirit we the parishioners of Cluster 22, find much joy and excitement with some of the changes that are evolving.

Divine Mercy Sunday, I read a letter from Bishop Deeley accepting my request to step down from full-time ministry in the diocese and announcing that Fr. Jack Dickinson has accepted the position of Pastor of St Bartholomew, St John & Holy Cross and St Maximilian Kolbe in addition to being judicial vicar for the Diocese of Portland. A graduate of Marshwood High School in South Berwick, Fr. Dickinson earned a bachelor's degree in history from Providence College in Rhode Island and completed his clerical studies at the Theological College at The Catholic University of America. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 28, 2011, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland. In June of 2011, Fr. Dickinson was appointed parochial vicar at Corpus Christi Parish in Waterville. In August of 2013, he was named parochial vicar at Good Shepherd Parish in Saco, where he served until departing for Washington, D.C. to pursue advanced studies at the School of Canon Law at The Catholic University of America in August of 2015. He returned in September of 2017 to serve at St. Thérèse of Lisieux Parish in Sanford and St. Matthew Parish in Limerick as well as in the Tribunal. His assignment is effective August 1, 2020.

Easter Sunday Fr Innocent Okozi announced that he was leaving for Canada on Wednesday, April 15, 2020. He let us know that he made it across the border and has arrived safely. Please keep him in your prayers as he begins this new chapter in his priestly ministry.

His contact information is:

Fr. Innocent Okozi Southdown Institute 18798 Old Yonge Street Holland Landing, Ontario L9N 0L1 Canada Email: okozisma@hotmail.com

Thank you to all who submitted recommendations for a new parish name. All new parish names (excluding those already in use in our diocese) have been placed into the online survey tool, SurveyMonkey. The link is: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F992CYJ Instruction for taking part in this survey were in the email I sent on Tuesday. This link will be active through Thursday, April 30. Survey Monkey will tabulate all selections and the top names will be presented to Bishop Deeley in May.

We understand these times can be financially challenging for all of us including the church. Thank you to those who continue to support the work of the Church through your offertory contributions. For those using offertory envelopes, they can be mailed to the cluster office at 150 Black Point Road, Scarborough, ME 04074. For those not on WeShare, our on-line giving program, we encourage you to go to our website (Cluster22.org) and sign up.

I have heard that recently some have received emails supposedly from me asking for help or to purchase iTunes Cards. Those are all scams and phishing attempts to get your personal information or money. Delete them. Do not open or respond to them.

Be assured of my prayer support and I ask that you pray for me and all of our staff who continue to serve on your behalf.

Sincerely,

Msgr. Paul F. Stefanko

Paul F. Stefanko