

Bidding adieu for the month of July

A few notes before leaving for summer vacation:

1) I want to congratulate all of our boys and girls, men and women who have just completed another year of education. My good wishes include those finishing kindergarten, those at the highest levels of graduate studies and all between. You bring a strength and hope to our communities for which we are most grateful.

Depending on your age and circumstances, you will be working, doing more study, going to summer camp or hanging out with friends. Whatever you do, I hope you have a chance for rest and renewal of body and spirit.

2) On Saturday at Sacred Heart Cathedral, we will ordain Joseph Marcoux to the ministerial priesthood. I look forward to that moment with great joy and a good deal of gratitude. Each newly ordained priest brings his own gifts and talents to ministry, and tries the best he can to offer them for the good of the people he serves. I know that our brother Joe, a richly gifted man, will do the same.

I am grateful to Joe's family and friends, the parishes in which he has grown over the years, his mentors at Becket Hall and the American College at Louvain, and to all who in any way have shared his journey. Joe has a few months

along the way

BY BISHOP MATTHEW H. CLARK



of further study following which he will take up his assignment as parochial vicar at our cathedral.

3) I love attending meetings of our Cathedral Renovation Committee. They work hard and do so in a spirit of joyful service. Their research is careful; their attention to what the church wants in and for cathedrals has been quite thorough.

They now are at the stage at which they will begin to draw up what they see as the scope of the project. In effect they will say to the architect, "Here is what we want to accomplish. Now, please come back to us with some ways in which we can do it." My understanding is that this will occur in the fall.

I will be glad when we get to that point. It is one thing—and very important—to reflect on values and study norms. But it's much more exciting to be able to visualize concrete possibilities

and to trade ideas about them. We are going to do what the church asks of us. We are going to do something beautiful and be very proud of what we have accomplished.

4) I want to update you on my health. I am happy to report that I am doing very well—thanks to your prayers and the care of wonderful doctors. My heart situation is stable according to all of the tests I have taken since I had the angioplasty and other work done in October of 1998.

Treatment for the inflammation of my vascular system has also been quite successful. For some time now the level of inflammation has been in the normal range. But it is so thanks to some powerful medication. The challenge now is gradually to reduce the amount of medication while keeping the inflammation at its current low level. That is happening slowly. The condition is a stubborn one. In the meantime, I am feeling well and experience no pain at all.

5) I am going to take my customary break from writing "Along the Way" during July. I do look forward to reconnecting with you in the August 2 edition of the *Catholic Courier*.

Thank you for your prayers and your friendship. I hope you find some peace and rest during this special time of the year.

Peace to all.



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—Marguerite "Peg" Pinney

Irondequoit, New York

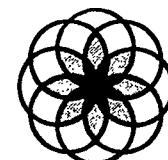
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