

## Diocesan Dialogue Shorter Version - July 2020

### July Reflection from our Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Father Mike Mahoney

It's a beautiful day in the neighbourhood.

Recently I happened across the movie about Mr. Rogers starring Tom Hanks. I had read a positive review and it was a breath of fresh air for TV. "A beautiful day in the neighbourhood" is the story of friendship between Mr. Rogers and a reporter who interviewed him for Esquire Magazine in 1998.

One particular scene in the movie happened in a restaurant where the reporter shared that he was a 'broken person'. Mr. Rogers responded by disagreeing with him and then asked him to share a minute of silence thinking about the people in his life who had "loved him into being".

The powerful minute of silence was magnified by all the patrons in the restaurant falling silent as well.

To think about those who have 'loved you into being' is an exercise in gratitude and a clear sign of love's power to change our emotional state of being weary and burdened.

What a humble thing; to be silent and recollect, and move to the heart of the matter. As Jesus says "Come to me".

Mr. Rogers was a devoted Catholic whose TV show helped children 'respond to their feelings in a positive way', and helped adults too. He did the same exercise during the 1997 Emmy's where he received a lifetime achievement award, and invited the whole audience to reflect for 10 seconds on those who 'loved them into being'. (google Mr. Rogers at Emmy Awards 1997).

Pope Francis speaks about Jesus as the 'friend of human nature', opposed to the 'enemy of human nature'. What's at stake "is whether in my heart, as well as in the heart of the Church and of humanity itself, the Kingdom of heaven will be established, with its law of love and the Lord's way of life: poverty, humility, and service. Or whether the kingdom of this world will triumph, with its laws and values of wealth, vanity, and pride."

..."will my heart become more a 'friend of Jesus'?" (*In Him Alone is Our Hope* 2013)

### Covid 2020

Members of St. Agnes CWL live streamed the Rosary every Tuesday for the months of May and June to bring peace and normalcy to parishioners and friends as we dealt with the new norm of Covid19.

Blessings and Thanks to all our sisters of the league who were able to join us 🙏

