

# THE Messenger

Every fall *The Messenger* newspaper celebrates Priesthood Sunday and our diocesan priests with a special PRIEST APPRECIATION ISSUE – this year in our October 14 issue.

Priests' pastoral ministries affect people's spiritual and personal lives in many ways, often at significant times: the baptism of children or adults; first Eucharist, confirmation, young couples preparing to be married in the church; visitations to a parishioner in the hospital or nursing home, receiving the anointing of the sick a final time, a family funeral liturgy. These are all emotional times that can be made more meaningful or less difficult when a priest walks alongside a family or individual.

To celebrate the ministry of priests in the diocese, The Messenger invites parishioners to comment on how priests' pastoral ministries affect their spiritual and personal lives or the parish community. Please keep comments under 300 words.

Please send comments to: [messenger@diobelle.org](mailto:messenger@diobelle.org)

**Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, October 1.**