



FROM THE VINEYARD

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THE NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT takes place in Ottawa this weekend, but with a local component. St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish in Peterborough is one of about thirty-five international sites where the event is being live-streamed. People will be able to access some fine Catholic speakers as they present on the theme of Church's mission and the call for all Catholics to evangelize – a five-dollar word meaning “to share the Good News.” Father Jerry Tavares and his staff will be coordinating things on site, in addition to an already full weekend schedule.

I WRAPPED UP MY ROUND OF DEANERY VISITS THIS WEEK attending the City Deanery Meeting at St. Thomas More Parish in Millbrook. From the location, you will deduce that “City” refers to Peterborough and environs. The gathering was well-attended by the priests of the region, and Father Jerry Tavares led us through a full agenda, made even longer by my additions. Thanks to Father Craig Cruikshank and his parishioners at St. Thomas for hosting us.

I MANAGED TO VISIT “VINNIE’S” LAST FRIDAY, the Thrift Store run by our local Society of St. Vincent de Paul. I had passed by the facility on Erskine Avenue quite a few times but had yet to drop in for a look-see. Both the size of the facility and the range of inventory are very impressive. Most impressive of all is the commitment of volunteers and staff, which reflects the true spirit of service to the poor that exemplifies the Society's mission.

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF OUR PRIEST BENEFIT FUND met this week, as we try to do at least seasonally. Much of our discussion centred on promoting this year's collection for the Priest Benefit Fund, being taken up in our parishes on June 17. This fund exists to help care for the retired priests of our diocese. The annual collection is a crucial way that we sustain the fund and ensure that our retired priests – now and in the future – will have their needs met and be well looked after.

IT WAS PARRY SOUND ON A 9-HOUR TURNAROUND last Saturday as I drove up and back to St. Peter the Apostle Parish. Thankfully, it was a beautiful day for a drive, and I enjoyed meeting the young people whom I confirmed and their families. Sunday was another gorgeous day for a road trip, this time to St. Michael Parish in Cobourg where I confirmed about thirty candidates.

THE SSVN SISTERS (Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara) serve at Sacred Heart and St. John the Baptist Parishes here in Peterborough, and Sacred Heart College. I was privileged to meet with their General Superior, Mother Corredentora, who was visiting from Rome this week. It was a pleasant get-together, but what a workout for my rusty Italian! The local superior, Mother Parousia, had to jump in as translator on a few occasions. Even with my deficient language skills, I was able to express sincere appreciation for the good work of the SSVN Sisters here in our diocese – something which many of you experience firsthand.

Pax et Bonum, † Daniel