



# FROM THE VINEYARD

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**THE ANNUAL ST. JOSEPH DINNER TO SUPPORT CAMPUS MINISTRY** at Trent University and Fleming College was a huge success. An enthusiastic crowd of over 200 gathered last Saturday for a fine meal and some inspiring testimonial talks by students. Our keynote speaker, Father Raymond de Souza, gave an interesting talk on his experience as chaplain at Queen's University, his affiliation with Catholic Christian Outreach, and his attendance at the recent Synod on Youth and Vocations. Congratulations to Fr. John Perdue and his team on organizing another successful dinner!

**I WAS HAPPY TO BE AT SACRED HEART PARISH** in Peterborough last Sunday, a visit that Fr. Andrew Ayala and I arranged relatively at the last minute. It's always a privilege to celebrate Mass in such a beautiful, historic church. And I was glad to be reminded of what an excellent choir and beautiful liturgical music that they have at Sacred Heart.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11 IS THE WORLD DAY OF THE SICK.** Pope John Paul II established this day to coincide with the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes as a reminder of the importance of the healing ministry of the Church. In Peterborough, we recall the long legacy of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Catholic health care, which continues at St. Joseph's at Fleming and Marycrest at Inglewood. We are grateful to the many priests and parishioners around our diocese who attend to the needs of the sick. I wish to acknowledge with special thanks the ministry of Fr. Damian Smullen, who is Catholic chaplain to the Peterborough Regional Health Care Centre and the good work of Fr. Andrew Begin, who provides pastoral care to many long-term care facilities and retirement homes.

**LEADERS OF THE DIOCESAN CURSILLO MOVEMENT** met with me this week, along with their Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Tom Lynch. It was an informative session where I learned a lot about the history of this vital lay movement within our diocese. I know that Cursillo weekends and ongoing participation in the movement have been transformative in the lives of many Catholics. I was happy to hear about plans and new ventures to help Cursillo grow in our diocese!

**THE ONTARIO BISHOPS' EDUCATION COMMISSION** met this past week, as it does every three months or so. There are always many issues on the agenda, with a lot of priority given to the ongoing rollout of the new Elementary Religious Education resource, *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ*.

**Parishes from Peterborough and environs are working hard to promote the CITY-WIDE PARISH MISSION, running from March 18th to 20th.** Bishop Gary Gordon of Victoria is an excellent speaker with a folksy and easygoing style - I know he will preach an excellent Mission. Plans are afoot to have him celebrate one Mass in each city parish on the weekend of March 16/17. Mark your calendars now and check your local bulletin for more information!

Pax et Bonum, † Daniel