



# FROM THE VINEYARD

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**OUR DIOCESAN LEARNING DAY** takes place this Tuesday at the Catholic Education Resource Centre here in Peterborough. Priests, deacons and parish staff members from across the diocese will gather for workshops on a variety of topics including website management and volunteer screening. It's the first time in a long time that we are bringing so many of our clergy and staff together and it promises to be an informative day. Sincere thanks to the Diocesan staff and various committee members who have worked hard to make it all happen.

**CARDINAL JOHN HENRY NEWMAN** was among five saints canonized by Pope Francis at a ceremony held in St. Peter's Square this past Sunday and I was happy to know that three of our priests from the Diocese of Peterborough were in attendance. Newman, a prolific writer and theologian converted to Catholicism from the Anglican Church in 1845. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Anglican Church of Canada issued a joint statement about the importance of Cardinal Newman and his Christian witness in the world. And I see that Bishop Robert Barron has a very interesting, brief video about the life of Cardinal Newman on his "Word on Fire" website.

**Members of the CURSILLO** movement in our Diocese will gather at St. Alphonsus Parish Hall on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. Cursillo promotes a deeper spiritual life for its members and enhances the life of the Church through prayer and friendship. I was happy to meet with some of our local "Cursillistas" last year and am pleased that they are striving to promote and encourage this movement within our Diocese.

**OUR ANNUAL MEETINGS WITH PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS** take place over the next two Sundays. We are meeting with northern parishes this Sunday and city and southern parishes a week from now. These are always helpful meetings with the dedicated people who attend to the administrative and financial operation of our parishes. And I hate to think where we would be without them!

**OUR PERMANENT DEACONS FORMATION PROGRAM** is up and running again this fall, and participants will meet at Sacred Heart College on Saturday. We are very pleased to have four candidates in formation for the Diaconate, and it's great to see how the "Deacon community" has come together to support them in their preparation. Keep them all in your prayers!

**THE FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN** is winding down as the balloting takes place this Monday – unless, like me, you already voted at the advance poll. There is still time to read the helpful Voters' Guide published by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. Voting is a precious right and a serious responsibility, and we should treat it as both a civic and Christian duty.

Fraternally, † Daniel