



# FROM THE VINEYARD

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**LAST WEEK'S "PRIEST STUDY DAYS"** were a great success. We were blessed with interesting presentations on Family Ministry, the Sacrament of Marriage, new Catechetical resources and the Diocesan Planning Process. Sincere thanks to the organizing committee of Fr. Tom Lynch, Fr. Paul Massel, Fr. Sany Seshaiyah and Fr. Jerry Tavares who did a great job of putting it all together – if only they could have done something about the snow!

**THE FALL ACTION CAMPAIGN FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE**, entitled "For our Common Home," focuses on the protection of the Amazon region. Deforestation, resource extraction and other pressures are putting the region and the people who live there at great risk. In this campaign, Development and Peace is seeking 65,000 signatures for a solidarity letter to be sent to the Mura people who inhabit the Amazon. That number represents one signature for each species of tree and vertebrate in the region. I was able to sign the letter during my visit to St. Alphonsus Parish in Peterborough last Sunday. One may also sign the letter online, where more information is available.

**THE ANNUAL MASS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED** with the PVNC Catholic District School Board took place on Wednesday this week. It is always a moving occasion, an opportunity to gather in faith to remember those from our educational community who have died in the past year. Of course, we held in prayer all of those who have died and those grieving their loss. I was grateful for the spirit of prayer and very fine music as we offered Mass at our Cathedral.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH** got some nice coverage in the Peterborough Examiner this week, with a story and photo focusing on their newly rebuilt ramp. This is one step in their project to improve accessibility for the church, with the installation of an elevator soon to come. In support of that venture, they are holding a "Fun Fair" this Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. It's so big that it is being held in two locations, at the parish hall (356 Rogers Street) and at Immaculate Conception School (76 Robinson St.) I will wager that Father Bill Moloney has already been out selling tickets!

**OUR DIOCESE IS ORGANIZED INTO FOUR "DEANERIES"** or pastoral regions – North, South, Central and City. The priests gather for periodic meetings with their nearby confreres to discuss matters of more local concern. I am looking forward to being with the priests of the Southern Deanery next week, as we convene at Villa St. Joseph Retreat Centre in Cobourg.

**THIS SUNDAY IS THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING**, the final Sunday in Ordinary Time, and I am looking forward to being at home! It's one of my favourite feast days and I'm pleased to be able to celebrate Mass and preach at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains.

Fraternally, † Daniel