



FROM THE VINEYARD

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BISHOPS IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES consecrated their dioceses to Mary, Mother of the Church today. This consecration seeks the grace and protection of our Blessed Mother during this time of the coronavirus. I was happy to offer this prayer of consecration at a liturgy celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains this afternoon. Pastors were also invited to celebrate the consecration today. A video of the liturgy held at the Cathedral may be found on our website. The beautiful consecration prayer is one that may be offered by families during this difficult time, and it may also be found on our website. What a wonderful prayer for us to offer throughout this month dedicated to Our Lady. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us!

IGNITING HOPE is the theme of CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK, which runs from May 3 to May 8. Even though school is not currently in session, there are many online resources to help us reflect upon the importance of Catholic education and its contribution within our province. We will feature a message from Michael Nasello, Director of Education for the PVNC Catholic District School Board on this week's broadcast of Sunday Mass from our Cathedral. My message for Catholic Education Week may be found here. I also look forward to celebrating a Mass for this Catholic Education Week, which will be uploaded to our website and various platforms on Thursday. We pray for all of our students, teachers, parents, school staffs, trustees and administrators, especially during these challenging days of the pandemic. The gift of our faith, at the very heart of Catholic education, will enable us all to weather the current storm!

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION would normally be happening now, and I would have the privilege of being with young people and their families across the Diocese. Sadly, these planned celebrations are among the many postponements that are marking our calendars these days. Confirmations have been delayed until the start of the next school year, when pastors will be delegated to minister the sacrament in their parishes. My sincere thanks to all those who have worked to prepare the young people for Confirmation: and know that your good efforts will bear fruit in the lives of our young people.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FROM ACROSS OUR DIOCESE participated in a video conference last Sunday. I was happy to join in that meeting, along with Father Craig Cruikshank and Father John Perdue. Even more, I was very impressed at the attendance of more than 30 "Grand Knights" who lead their local councils and who mastered the technology to be part of that call. And the annual provincial conference of the Knights of Columbus goes ahead this weekend; once again, all online.

Pax et Bonum, † Daniel