



FROM THE VINEYARD

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CATHOLICS FROM OUR DIOCESE ARE INVITED TO PRAY THE ROSARY, this Sunday, asking our Blessed Mother's intercession for an end to the Covid-19 pandemic. In doing so, we are responding to Pope Francis' request that, in this month dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, we seek her help and consolation for all who have been impacted by the coronavirus. Earlier this week, I taped the recitation of the rosary aided by Father Tom Lynch and the priests of the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains. This devotion will air on our Diocesan You Tube channel, Sunday at 2:00 p.m. If you can join in then, or pray the rosary anytime on Sunday, please do so, trusting that our prayers may bear fruit through the powerful intercession of our Blessed Mother.

THE THREE-STEP REOPENING PLAN announced by the provincial government leaves places of worship capped at a strict limit of ten people in Step One. This is disappointing, considering other establishments will be allowed a percentage of building capacity in that step. I have written to all the MPPs whose ridings intersect with the territory of our Diocese to express my concern over this approach, and the treatment of churches; especially when we have demonstrated our ability to gather with people safely and responsibly. Meetings about this serious objection to the Three Step Plan will continue at a provincial level. Let us pray for a good outcome that values places of worship as significant contributors to society's wellbeing and to people's mental and spiritual health.

A CATHOLIC STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONGRESS was held online this past Wednesday, with student leaders from the PVNC Catholic District School Board; all of them winners of the Catholic Leadership award at their respective schools. It was based on the theme "Being Salt and Light for Others." I was happy to address the topic of Hope and Leadership, while Sr. Anne Karges, CSJ spoke to Faith and Leadership. The students were attentive and asked thoughtful questions, demonstrating why they have emerged as leaders within their schools.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH who are celebrating major anniversaries this year. Ten Jubilarians will be honoured this Sunday with a celebratory lunch and a "Meet and Greet" Zoom in the afternoon. The honourees range from 60 to 80 years in Religious life, a remarkable legacy of service within the Church. Please remember them in your prayers!

BLESSED BISHOP LOUIS-ZEPHERIN MOREAU was beatified by Pope St. John Paul II on May 10, 1987. He was the fourth bishop of Saint-Hyacinthe, serving from 1875 to 1901, and was renowned for his holiness and service to the poor. This year marks the 120th anniversary of his death. The current Bishop of Saint-Hyacinthe, Most Reverend Christian Rodembourg, has invited the prayers of the faithful across Canada for the canonization of their beloved Bishop Moreau. The prayer can be found on the website of the Diocese of Saint-Hyacinthe, helpfully translated into English here.

Fraternally, † Daniel