



FROM THE VINEYARD

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POPE FRANCIS HAS ACCEPTED THE INVITATION of the Canadian Bishops to come to Canada on a journey of healing and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. The statement from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops may be found [here](#). A date is still to be set for this visit, which will build on three years of dialogue between the Canadian Bishops, the Holy See and Indigenous peoples. The delegation of Indigenous peoples to the Vatican in December will undoubtedly be an opportunity for them to share the history and painful legacy of Residential Schools. This delegation is being planned in close collaboration First Nations, Metis, and Inuit leaders, who will share with the Holy Father their hopes for his eventual visit to Canada, and the ways in which it may further the cause of reconciliation.

THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH have been on spiritual retreat this week at “the Mount” in Peterborough. Originally planned for June, the Sisters postponed the gathering until now in the hopes of welcoming their retreat director in person. I was pleased to speak by phone with Archbishop Sylvain Lavoie, OMI (retired Archbishop of Keewatin-La Pas in northern Manitoba) who has been giving the retreat conferences. May God continue to bless both the director and the participants, as they conclude the retreat tomorrow.

VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH IN CAMPBELLFORD had some nice coverage recently in The Catholic Register. You will see that the article focuses on recent parish efforts to pay down the debt incurred in the major restoration of the church exterior. These efforts, like the opening of a Thrift store and the “parish potato patch,” are also benefitting the wider community, especially in serving the poor. As you might expect, there are a few good quotes from the pastor, Father Bill Moloney, who says, “the Holy Spirit is alive and active at St. Mary’s in Campbellford, despite COVID-19.” I couldn’t agree more!

THE BOARD OF SACRED HEART COLLEGE will convene on Saturday for our Annual General Meeting. The College continues to explore new ways to promote adult formation, catechesis, and Evangelization efforts in our Diocese and beyond. Sacred Heart has also been an important partner in our Diocesan Pastoral Planning project. It is worth checking out their website which has recently been redesigned!

THE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE 2021-22 campaign is People and Planet First. The campaign is focused on industrial abuses in the Global south that threaten the environment, local communities, and Indigenous peoples. You can learn more about the campaign [here](#).

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED. Let us remember to pray for our deceased loved ones, on the Commemoration of All Souls (Nov. 2) and throughout the coming month. “Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.”

Fraternally, † Daniel