



FROM THE VINEYARD

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THE PARISH MISSION “FROM RITUAL TO RELATIONSHIP,” is being sponsored by Sacred Heart College and our Diocese and offered at various parishes. The hybrid format, with recorded talks by Sr. Helena Burns, allows this mission to be presented in multiple places. I am looking forward to attending the mission at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains this Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. More information can be found at the Sacred Heart College website.

THE ANNUAL INAUGURAL MEETING for the PVNC Catholic District School Board was held on Wednesday this week. I was happy to be in attendance and to celebrate Mass with trustees and senior administration afterwards. Congratulations to Braden Leal and Kevin McKenzie, who were elected chair and vice-chair respectively. Let’s hold in prayer the trustees who serve the four Catholic school boards within our Diocese, and who have an important role of stewardship!

OUR COUNCIL OF PRIESTS met online this past week, one of several gatherings that we hold throughout year. The council is composed of the Deans of our four geographic regions (City, Central, Southern and Northern) and other elected and ex-officio members. It is one of the important consultative bodies in the Diocese and we dealt with topics ranging from the Synod to Diocesan policies to the ongoing formation of priests.

A MINI-ADVENT RETREAT was held by Peterborough Campus Ministry at the Cathedral last night. I was pleased to give an opening reflection on the theme of hope, and then Fr. John Perdue led us in prayer during some time of Eucharistic Adoration. It was a great event for students, donors, and Cathedral parishioners, capped off with some social time at the end of the evening.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN SOLIDARITY WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES will be celebrated at our Cathedral on Saturday, December 11 at 10:00 a.m. We look forward to welcoming people to this morning of prayer, with a luncheon of traditional foods afterwards. Deacon John Brown of the Archdiocese of Toronto will be our homilist.

THE WEEKLY ADVENT VIDEO SERIES, “Indigenous Peoples and the Church: Walking Together toward Healing and Reconciliation” can be viewed on the Canadian Bishops’ website. Each week, there is a brief video with Archbishop Donald Bolen, along with some resources for learning and reflection. This week’s reflection on the former Indian Residential Schools offers a valuable message and helpful historical information on this important issue. As a delegation of Indigenous people prepares to meet with Pope Francis at the Vatican later this month, we pray that the work of healing and reconciliation may be advanced in our nation and Church.

THE CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION in our Diocese this fall concluded with a group of young people at Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Port Hope last Saturday. Congratulations to all the newly confirmed in the Diocese and sincere thanks to all those who helped them prepare!

Fraternally, + Daniel