



FROM THE VINEYARD

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LENT WILL SOON BE HERE, and I'm excited about the online Lenten Mission being co-sponsored by Sacred Heart College and the Diocese of Peterborough. Entitled "The Fullness of Purpose, it features Ken Yasinski, a popular lay Catholic speaker from Saskatchewan. The first video rolls out on the Sunday before Lent (February 28) and a new video thereafter each Lenten Sunday. You can find more information about this Lenten Mission and how to host it on the Sacred Heart College website. Or check out the welcome video on our Diocesan YouTube channel and plan to make this online Mission part of your Lent.

I ENJOYED THE WEBINAR sponsored by Novalis earlier this week that featured Moira McQueen and Massimo Faggioli speaking about the Synod on Synodality. Dr. McQueen (head of the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute) has written a very interesting book, "Walking Together – A Primer on the new Synodality." In it she explores the history of Synods in the Church, the desires of the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council in reviving this body, and Pope Francis' hopes for the upcoming Synod in 2023. This Synod invites the input of all the faithful. If you haven't had the opportunity to participate in a parish discussion group, you can still offer your responses to the Synod questions online at our Diocesan website.

OUR PERMANENT DEACONS AND DEACON CANDIDATES met online earlier this week, and it was a good chance both to socialize and learn. After some catching up and sharing of news, we reviewed the (nearly published) Diocesan Liturgical Handbook for Deacons. A lot of good information was presented, and I know it provided a good review for everyone. Sincere thanks to Deacon Bill Radigan and Doug Finbow for organizing the gathering and for their work in putting the Liturgical Handbook together!

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ST. PETER'S SEMINARY meets four times a year, and we did so this past week. Meetings in the past two years, alas, have been entirely online. The Bishop of London, the Most Rev. Ronald Fabbro, chairs the meetings and oversees the work of the Board. St. Peter's serves students preparing for the priesthood from many dioceses across Canada. I have sat on the Board these past four years and, with this recent meeting, have now completed my term. It was a privilege to have input into the work of such an important Catholic institution, vital to the future of the Church in our country.

OUR PRIEST PERSONNEL BOARD met this past week, to consider the various clergy personnel situations around the Diocese. Transfers typically happen in the summer, and it is always a considerable task to make the best possible assignment of the priest to the place! For that reason I am grateful for the consultation of the board members – our four deans, Chancellor of Spiritual Affairs and Vicar General. Please pray for the success of this process in the coming months.

Fraternally, † Daniel