



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 182; May 20, 2022

I RELEASED A LETTER ABOUT THE INDIGENOUS RECONCILIATION FUND earlier this week, and our Diocese's participation in it. We are committed to doing our part in this important venture of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops in collaboration with Indigenous partners. The fund will support projects that promote healing, reconciliation, education and community building in the wake of trauma experienced by Indigenous peoples because of the Residential Schools policy in our nation. (It should be noted that none of the funds committed to the IRF will be used for the upcoming papal visit.) The "Bishop's Appeal" held on July 3rd and 10th this year, will be dedicated entirely to meeting our commitments to the IRF. You may read the letter and learn more details [here](#).

THE PILGRIM STATUE from the Shrine of **Our Lady of Cap de Madeleine** will be received at our Cathedral this Sunday at 1:30 p.m. The timing is ideal, as the month of May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. I look forward to being there for a program that includes the Holy Rosary, the Crowning of Mary and the traditional "blessing of roses," that is associated with Cap de Madeleine. This marks the 75th anniversary of the first such tour of the Pilgrim Statue within Canada - a video about that original 1947 tour can be viewed [here](#).

ONE WEEK AND COUNTING UNTIL THE ORDINATION of Deacon Peter Lukow to the priesthood. The Ordination Mass takes place next Friday, May 27 at 7:00 p.m. at our Cathedral. You are welcome to attend in person or you may prefer to view the livestream on our Diocesan YouTube channel. Please keep Deacon Peter in your prayers!

THE HONOURABLE GRAYDON NICHOLAS will present "Reflections from an Indigenous Catholic on Evangelization," a webinar sponsored by Concerned Lay Catholics. A member of Tobique First Nation, Mr. Nicholas is a respected Elder, lawyer, judge, social worker, educator and activist. He was the first Indigenous person to hold the position of Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. He is a devout Catholic and the founder of Indigenous Catholic Research Fellowship. You may register for the webinar [here](#). All donations will go to support Mr. Nicholas' work of reconciliation.

FATHER JOHN PERDUE has been on a bit of a farewell tour, as he prepares to head to Italy for language school prior to beginning graduate studies in theology. Those theological studies will commence in Rome, this fall. Friends and benefactors of Peterborough Campus Ministry feted him on Sunday. Our own Diocesan Pastoral Center Staff gathered with him on Wednesday. And the priests of the city deanery said their goodbyes at a barbecue yesterday. Please pray for Father John as he embarks on an exciting new phase of his priesthood.

THE VICTORIA DAY WEEKEND is the start of a busy season for many of our cottage country parishes in the Diocese. If you are travelling this weekend, please do so safely and enjoy the beauty of this land!

Fraternally, + Daniel