



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 186; June 24, 2022

THE VATICAN CONFIRMED yesterday the program for the Papal Visit to Canada, taking place July 24-29. The theme of the visit is “Walking Together,” and will be held in sites around Edmonton, Quebec City and Iqaluit. The Holy Father’s journey of reconciliation will include visits to a former residential school, Indigenous pilgrimage sites, and a mix of public and private events. Free tickets will be available for a limited number of events, all of which will be broadcast and livestreamed. For tickets and other information, go to www.papalvisit.ca. Let’s pray for the health of Pope Francis and a safe and blessed journey in Canada.

OUR ANNUAL BISHOP’S APPEAL will go to the “Indigenous Reconciliation Fund,” as I noted in a letter several weeks ago. Our Diocese was asked and has agreed to pledge the sum of \$400,000.00 to help reach the Canadian Bishops’ national campaign goal of 30 million dollars: the funds will be overseen at both a local and national level by committees with strong Indigenous representation and will go to sustain programs that support healing and reconciliation, education and Indigenous culture, spirituality and language. The collection will be taken up in parishes on July 2/3 and July 9/10 or you may donate online..... More information about the I.R.F. can be found on the CCCB website.

THE VISIT OF THE PILGRIM STATUE FROM CAP DE MADELEINE to our Cathedral will take place on Tuesday, July 12 at 7:00 p.m. We welcome you to this hour of prayer and Marian devotion, focused upon the Papal visit to Canada.

VILLA ST. JOSEPH ECOLOGY AND SPIRITUALITY CENTER in Cobourg will celebrate its 100th Anniversary! I am looking forward to being there to celebrate an Outdoor Mass on Saturday, July 2 at 4:00 p.m. This anniversary marks a long legacy of service by the Sisters of St. Joseph in a very important ministry.

OUR DIOCESAN SYNOD SYNTHESIS REPORT has been completed and submitted to the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario for their “magnum synthesis.” Sincere thanks to our Pastoral Planning Committee, especially the writing team, who waded through 4000 pieces of feedback from online surveys and parish discussions. This report will contribute to the Synod of Bishops to be held in Rome in 2023 and will also inform our own Diocesan Planning Process.

SINCE THIS WILL BE THE LAST “FROM THE VINEYARD” for a while, I want to remind people about School Board Trustee elections that will take place this fall. Nominations for candidates close on August 19th. Good information about the role of a Catholic School Trustee can be found [here](#). This is an important role of service within the Catholic community and requires people of sound faith, good judgement, and concern for students, staff and parents.

OUR RETIRED PRIESTS gathered for a Barbecue on the back patio of the Cathedral rectory today, our first such social gathering with our senior clergy since 2019. Thanks so much to Diocesan and Cathedral staff and the volunteers who organized it all!

Fraternally, † Daniel