



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 196; November 11, 2022

PASTORS AND PASTORAL PLANNING was the theme of our Priests' Study Days, which were held this past week at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston. Teresa Hartnett presented and facilitated discussions among us on the themes related to leadership, managing change and priestly ministry. It was a wonderful couple of days and the beautiful weather (and nice facility) allowed us to enjoy this first in-person Study Days since 2019. Among other things, it was simply nice to be together and to welcome and get to know some of the priests new to our diocese. Sincere thanks to Father Tom Lynch, Father Jerry Tavares and Father Sany Seshaiyah of our Priests' Ongoing Formation Committee for their work in organizing it all!

OUR PERMANENT DEACON FORMATION PROGRAM accepted a new cohort this fall. Participants spend this first year in the "aspirant phase," prior to being formally accepted as candidates. They will be meeting for their monthly session tomorrow at St. Martin's in Ennismore, where they will spend their day delving into Scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. There will also be a session on "Tools of Discernment." Our Permanent Deacon Formation team does an excellent job in providing this program and preparing men for diaconal ministry in our diocese.

THE LAST OF OUR FOUR REGIONAL MEETINGS for Pastoral Planning took place at St. Anne Parish in Peterborough on Saturday. Parishes representatives of the City Deanery and beyond gathered for a very fruitful day of discussions. Now we are preparing to the Diocesan-wide meeting to be held next Saturday, November 19th at St. Thomas Catholic Secondary School in Lindsay. I wish to thank all those who have participated in these meetings and who will attend next Saturday, giving of their time and energy to contribute to this process of Pastoral Planning in the Diocese of Peterborough.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to World Youth Day. Currently we have about twenty participants planning to join this excursion to Lisbon, Portugal, taking place from July 27 to August 9 next year. More information can be found on our Diocesan [website](#).

I LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING MASS next week at the Inaugural meeting of the new Board of Trustees for the [PVNC Catholic District School Board](#). With last month's municipal elections, the Board will welcome several new trustees. In addition, several trustees have retired after years (in some cases many years) of service. Let us pray for all those beginning this new term on the Board of Trustees, that God may bless them in this important role of leadership in Catholic education.

TODAY IS REMEMBRANCE DAY, when we honour those who have served our country in past wars, especially those who gave the sacrifice of their lives. We pray for them and for the progress of peace in our world.

Fraternally, † Daniel