



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 197; November 18, 2022

ORIENTATION SESSIONS WERE HELD at our Diocesan Pastoral Center today. The morning session was for seven priests new to the Diocese of Peterborough, and the afternoon meeting was held for three priests new to the role of pastor. With a hybrid assembly of in-person and online attendees, our DPC staff (joined by Fr. Tom Lynch and Fr. Paul Massel) dealt with a range of issues – pastoral, liturgical and financial. Sincere thanks to all who participated and all those who presented on the various topics!

THE INAUGURAL MEETING of the PVNC Catholic District School Board was held this past Tuesday, with the new board being constituted after October's municipal election. Congratulations to the seven trustees who each won their election, a group that includes four trustees new to the Board. Congratulations also to Kevin MacKenzie who was elected as the chair, and Jenny Leahy as the vice-chair. Following the meeting I was pleased to celebrate Mass for the trustees, guests and senior administration, joined and assisted by Father Joshy George, pastor of St. Alphonsus in Peterborough.

OUR DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLANNING PROCESS has been in high gear, with regional meetings held throughout the fall. Tomorrow, we gather as a Diocesan group of parish representatives at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School in Lindsay. This large gathering will give us the opportunity for more discussion of pastoral goals for the Diocese of Peterborough and how they can be best achieved at the parish level. Sincere thanks to all the parish reps who have given of their time and energy to be at these important meetings!

PRIESTS, PRINCIPALS AND SECONDARY SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY LEADERS typically meet twice a year at the Catholic Education Center in Peterborough. We are looking forward to a meeting this coming Wednesday, a chance to discuss various pastoral and educational concerns. These are important meetings, so I remind the priests to RSVP, especially because having numbers for lunch is essential.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE at St. Paul Parish in Lakefield is celebrating their 100th Anniversary. I will be with them for a Mass of Thanksgiving this Sunday followed by a luncheon in the parish hall. Current CWL members and pastor Father Raymond Rick will be joined by members of the Diocesan CWL executive and former pastors of St. Paul's. It looks like a grand celebration and happening on the beautiful feast of Christ the King!

WE HOLD OCCASIONAL STAFF LUNCHEONS at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, often organized around a theme. This week we marked the 25 years that have passed since the death of Mother Teresa, with a menu of Indian food and place settings adorned with quotes from this great saint and missionary to the poor and dying. St. Teresa of Calcutta, pray for us!

Fraternally, † Daniel