



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 208; March 3, 2023

WORLD YOUTH DAY PLANS continue in earnest, as our pilgrims prepare for their journey to Lisbon this summer. One of their major fundraising efforts is the *Portuguese Dinner* at Immaculate Conception Parish in Peterborough. It takes place on Saturday, March 25, with the hall doors opening at 6:30 p.m. Diners will feast on national and regional delicacies prepared by the pilgrims themselves! I am looking forward to being there and seeing a good turnout of people from Peterborough and beyond. Tickets are just \$55.00, but be advised, they are on sale at the office of the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains (not Immaculate Conception). The longer office hours at the Cathedral made this the most practical arrangement.

I MET WITH THE CAPUCHIN FRANCISCAN BROTHERS last week, to get updated on their ministry since coming to the Diocese of Peterborough last August. Brother Alan Gaebel and Brother Stephen Massenhoeven have been busy! They are offering a range of programs at their La Verna Spirituality Center on Frank St. (the former St. John Paul II House) and have been drawing a lot of interest. Check out our Diocesan website and the page which describes the good work being done by the Franciscans in our community.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS is well on its way, as plans for this year's event have been gathering momentum. A cast of over thirty young people will once again take to the streets of Peterborough to re-enact the final moments of the life of our Lord Jesus Christ. This solemn devotion will be held on Good Friday, April 7, beginning with a brief prayer service at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains at 10:00 a.m. Check out their [website](#) for more information, to volunteer or donate! And plan to join in this prayerful and inspirational event on Good Friday!

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE – CARITAS CANADA runs the Share Lent Campaign each year, inviting us to support development projects in the Global South. This year's campaign, "Stand for the Land," focuses on grassroots organizations and individuals who are striving to protect their land against encroachment by governments, agri-business, and other powerful corporations. Check out their [website](#) for more information about this year's campaign including the [letter of support](#) from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

THE LENTEN DAY OF GRACE takes place at our Cathedral tomorrow, March 4, with Confessions being offered from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. It is an ideal opportunity to celebrate the Lord's mercy in this holy season.

THE ASSEMBLY OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF ONTARIO will meet in Toronto this coming week, which we do twice a year. It is always a busy agenda when we deal with matters ranging from Catholic education to healthcare to evangelization and renewal efforts. We are hopeful that Archbishop Frank Leo, newly appointed to the Archdiocese of Toronto, might be able to join us for some of it, even though he will not be formally installed until March 25 (the Feast of the Annunciation of our Lord.)

Fraternally, † Daniel