



FROM THE VINEYARD

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POPE FRANCIS CELEBRATES THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY of his election as Supreme Pontiff, this Monday, March 13th. To mark the occasion, the Holy See is having a special prayer initiative. The faithful around the world are invited to pray at least one Hail Mary for Pope Francis to mark this milestone. As part of the initiative, a special online map will feature virtual lighted candles representing the prayers of the people who have registered. The map will then be offered as a gift in support of his ministry. The Vatican news release about this initiative can be found [here](#). If you wish to register, please use this [link](#), choosing your language preference in the upper right hand corner of the page. May the Holy Father be supported by the prayers of the faithful as he shepherds the Church on earth!

POPE FRANCIS HAS RELIED ON A SMALL “COUNCIL OF CARDINALS” to assist him in his governance of the Church since his election. The numbers and membership have shifted over the years depending on things like health and retirement. This week we learned that Cardinal Gerald Lacroix, Archbishop of Quebec, [has been appointed](#) by Pope Francis as one of the nine members of the renewed Council of Cardinals - and he is certainly a worthy choice. Felicitations, Your Eminence!

PLANS FOR OUR CHRISM MASS are well underway even though we are just two weeks into Lent. The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains on Monday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m. We always look forward to welcoming parishioners from across the Diocese to this Mass, at which the holy oils are blessed for the coming year and priests renew their sacred promises. Priests and Deacons are reminded to reply to the online invitation so that we can make plans for both the Mass and dinner beforehand.

OUR COUNCIL OF PRIESTS will convene next week for the first time this year, welcoming five newly elected members. Among other tasks, the Council will have to elect a new Chair to preside over the meetings for the coming two years. Composed of both the regional Deans and various elected members, the Council of Priests is one of the principal advisory bodies in a diocese to the Bishop. Sincere thanks to all those who continue to serve and who have agreed to serve!

TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE PORTGUESE DINNER in support of our pilgrims attending World Youth Day. The event is being held at Immaculate Conception Parish in Peterborough on Saturday, March 25 (doors open at 6:30). Tickets may be purchased at the office of the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains.

THOUGH LENT IS WELL UNDERWAY, it is not too late to benefit from the [“Journey Through Lent” videos](#) posted on the Canadian Bishops’ website. Archbishop Brian Dunn offers thoughtful, spiritual reflections for each week of this holy season.

Fraternally, † Daniel