



FROM THE VINEYARD

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THE ASSEMBLY OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF ONTARIO met earlier this week as we do twice a year, to address a range of issues and concerns. Those meetings typically take place in Toronto, and we were happy to welcome the new Archbishop, Most Reverend Francis Leo, to his first meeting of the Assembly. There is always a good spirit of fraternity at these gatherings and the sharing of some valuable ideas in a convivial atmosphere!

LAUDATE DEUM, the new apostolic exhortation by Pope Francis was published earlier this week. Updating the encyclical *Laudato Si*, which was released in 2015, it deals with a variety of environmental concerns as the Holy Father urges us to “care for our common home.” The full text of Laudate Deum may be viewed at the Vatican [website](#).

OUR DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL MET EARLIER TODAY, and we had a full agenda as we attended to fiscal and administrative issues. We are also looking forward to our annual **Finance Forums** being held in the next couple of weeks, for pastors and members of Parish Finance Councils. Participants are asked to attend either the in-person session at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Newcastle, next Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, or the online session on Tuesday, October 17.

FORMED.ORG provides some amazing religious content on a platform that has sometimes been dubbed “Catholic Netflix.” We purchased a diocesan subscription for three years (thanks to a generous donation from Sacred Heart College) which means that all our parishioners have free access to this great programming. Among other things, it is a great resource and a way to support our Diocesan Pastoral Plan. Why not check it out this weekend? Just go to the [Formed front page](#); then click on “Sign up,” fill in your name and email address and begin exploring the engaging and professional content. You will find excellent videos on saints, some fine children’s programming, and “The Search” which is a great exploration of the Catholic faith – among many other resources. And did I mention it’s all free?

THE ANNUAL ST. JOSEPH DINNER in support of Campus Ministry at Trent University and Fleming College is coming soon! We have switched from the winter to the fall for this entertaining yearly event, and both the dinner and the program promise to be excellent. It takes place at “The Venue” in downtown Peterborough on Saturday, November 4th. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to the Peterborough Campus Ministry [website](#).

THIS IS THANKSGIVING WEEKEND, a time of celebration in our country. As it says in Paul to the Ephesians, the bountiful produce of the earth is a sign of the many blessings God wants to shower on us in Christ. May you and yours enjoy these festivities which remind us of our gracious and loving God!

Fraternally, + Daniel