



# FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 232; October 27, 2023

**POPE FRANCIS** has called Catholics to pray and fast this day for peace in the world. A special prayer vigil for that intention will take place this evening at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Let us each take some time today to pray for peace and the end of the death of innocents and the suffering caused by war, especially in Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza.

**PRIESTS, PRINCIPALS AND CHAPLAINCY LEADERS** gathered at the Catholic Education Center in Peterborough this week. We typically meet twice a year, and we convened this time with a busy agenda, looking at our respective pastoral plans and learning about the new Diocesan resources for preparation of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. It was the first such meeting for Stephen O'Sullivan in his new role as Director of Education and I was happy to offer him the congratulations of the clergy and the assurance of our support!

**OUR WORLD YOUTH DAY PARTICIPANTS** will give a presentation tomorrow at Sacred Heart Parish in Peterborough, from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m., about their amazing experiences at WYD Lisbon. They will share pictures and stories of their wonderful journey, gathering with 1.5 million Catholics from all over the world. Thanks to the Diocese of Peterborough Youth Office for arranging this and Sacred Heart Parish for hosting!

**THE ST. JOSEPH DINNER IS JUST OVER A WEEK AWAY!** This annual dinner to raise funds for our Campus ministry at Trent University and Fleming College will be held at "The Venue" in downtown Peterborough, on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. For information about the great program of events and to purchase tickets, go the Peterborough Campus ministry [website](#).

**OUR DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**, held a wrap-up meeting and dinner at the Diocesan Pastoral Center this week. It was great to share an enjoyable meal and a few final thoughts about the process of preparing the Pastoral Plan and our hopes for its implementation. The work of realizing the Plan is now a five-year project which will engage many people – most importantly, priests and parishioners! My sincere thanks to all those who contributed to the Diocesan Pastoral Planning process in various ways over the past several years.

**THE ANNUAL PRIEST STUDY DAYS** will be held soon, November 7 to 9 at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston. We are looking forward to exploring the theme "Roadmap for Ministry." Some time will be devoted to unpacking the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, and we will also hear from Father Innocent Okozi on the theme of "Effective Leadership Strategies for Post-Covid Pastoral Challenges." These days promise to be informative and enjoyable!

**NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED**, when we pray for those who have gone before us. The Commemoration of All Souls on Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> will be a busy day in our parishes as we pray for deceased friends and relatives, that they may rest in eternal peace.

Fraternally, + Daniel