



FROM THE VINEYARD

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[GOOD NEWS FOR OUR INDIGENOUS RECONCILIATION FUND!](#) We received word this week from the [National Indigenous Reconciliation Fund Board of Directors](#) that the eight projects our local committee recommended for support have now been approved. You may read the specifics of those projects in the [news release here](#). Sincere thanks to the members of our [local IRF committee](#), who studied and vetted the various applications and proposed these projects for funding. This is happy news just before this [weekend's collection](#) in our parishes for the [Indigenous Reconciliation Fund](#). Thank you so much for your generous support in two previous collections, which enabled us to fund these eight worthy projects that will help us to “walk together” with Indigenous people.

THE RELIQUARY OF BROTHER ANDRE finishes its tour in the Diocese this evening, with a program at St. Anne Parish in Peterborough. Thank you, Father Jomon Kalladanthiyil, and Marc and Pauline Cantin for being here throughout this week and visiting many parishes and schools, telling the story of Brother Andre and his remarkable life!

I WAS DELIGHTED TO BE AT HOLY CROSS SECONDARY SCHOOL in Peterborough on Wednesday morning, where I visited several religion classes in periods one and two. It was a great opportunity to touch base with students and bring a message of encouragement and hope to them. Thanks so much to the principal, Ms. Bittner and the chaplaincy leader, Ms. Maryam, and to the teachers who welcomed me into their classrooms.

AT A VISIT TO ST. AUGUSTINE'S SEMINARY YESTERDAY, I was privileged to confer the ministry of Acolyte on seven young men studying for the priesthood. This ministry is one of several liturgical steps that a man takes on his journey toward ordination. I was grateful for the kind welcome extended by Monsignor Robert Nusca, Father Edwin Gonsalves and the faculty. It was also a blessing for Father Stephen DeCarlo and me to visit with the two men who are studying there for the Diocese of Peterborough.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KEVIN MACKENZIE & JENNY LEAHY, who were re-elected on Wednesday evening as Chairperson and Vice-chairperson, respectively, of the PVNC Catholic District School Board. I was pleased to attend the meeting and to celebrate Mass afterwards at which I conferred a blessing on them and all our trustees who serve Catholic education so well.

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF THE POOR is celebrated in Catholic parishes this weekend, the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Pope Francis published a special message for the day, referencing and excerpt from the Book of Tobit 4:7; “Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor.” The full text can be read [here](#). My sincere thanks to all those in our parishes and Catholic lay organizations who dedicate themselves to the service of the poor in any way.

Fraternally, + Daniel