



# FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 246; February 23, 2024

**CLERGY OF THE CENTRAL DEANERY** gathered for one of their seasonal meetings this week at St. Mary's Church in Lindsay. I was happy to join them and appreciated the spirited discussion around various of the Synod themes that deal with priestly and diaconal ministry. Father Joseph Devereaux is the intrepid dean and presides over a far-ranging "donut-shaped" territory which includes parishes from Hastings and Cardiff in the east to Kinmount and Kirkfield in the west.

**"PLEDGE OF FUTURE GLORY"** is the title of our City-wide Lenten Mission. The Mission preachers are Father Luke Joseph Leighton, CFR, and Father Juan Diego Sutherland, CFR, who are both members of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. The mission will be presented twice daily (morning and evening) at the Cathedral of St. Peter's in Chain from Monday, March 11 to Wednesday, March 13. We really want this to be city-wide and will happily welcome people from far beyond the urban boundaries! [Click here for more information.](#)

**OUR SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION REVIEW COMMITTEE** met this week. Chaired by Father Ray Rick and Robyn Henighan, they have overseen the revision of our First Eucharist and First Reconciliation programs with the introduction of a new program from The Augustine Institute. Now they are turning their attention and creative minds to the Sacrament of Confirmation. The fruit of their good labours can be seen on our website, especially in the videos and other supporting resources they have provided to make our Sacramental preparation programs first class.

**OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL** is presenting "Murder on the Orient Express," a play based on the famous Agatha Christie novel. This stirring drama will be presented at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall in Peterborough, on Thursday, February 29 and Friday March 1 at 7:00 p.m. During my visit today with Dr. John Jalsevac (headmaster) and Nancy Dunk (chair of the board) I was the very glad recipient of several free tickets to what promises to be a great show. [Click here for more information.](#)

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT [JOURNEY THROUGH LENT](#),** weekly videos on different Lenten themes on the Canadian Bishops' website. These seasonal videos for Advent and Lent have become a regular feature of the CCCB and I find they are particularly well done this year.

**OUR CLERGY PERSONNEL BOARD** met this week to discuss transfers of priests and deacons later this year. Retirements plus other comings and goings mean that we must always be looking ahead in the planning of our personnel needs. I am grateful to the priests who are the board members and always provide valuable perspective and advice.

Fraternally, + Daniel